

# CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE

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## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

The Twenty-sixth Annual Convention of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations held from May 8 to 13 at Tacoma, Washington, is a fascinating story which each delegate is rehearsing in state or district convention or local association. It is an inspiration to review it again.

Once more we see Mount Tacoma, snow-capped, and radiant with tints of pink, yellow and blue peering out from the clouds that enshroud her base.

It is May the eighth, 1922. In the city of Tacoma at Tacoma Hotel many groups are constantly arriving and delegates are busy making reservations and meeting friends.

The National Board of Managers is in session all day with a large representation of officers, state presidents and department chairmen, solving details before the convention.

## BANQUET

The banquet takes place this same evening in the Viking room of the Tacoma Hotel. Plates are provided for more than 375 guests and the tables are beautifully decorated with spring flowers in the Congress colors of blue and yellow, with a miniature replica of Mount Tacoma at the honor table.

The delicious repast is followed by an evening of wit and wisdom under the able leadership of Mrs. C. Arthur Varney, the president of the State Branch of Washington. Cordial greetings are extended by Mr. William F. Geiger, the city superintendent of schools, Mrs. Josephine Corliss Preston, the state superintendent, and Mrs. Victor Malstrom, who is the efficient local chairman of arrangements and who has been recently elected as the future President of the State Branch of the Congress. Nearly all the national and state officers present express their appreciation of the warm welcome accorded the delegates. They show their hospitality by singing "Out Where the West Begins, Out where the hand clasp's a little stronger, Out where the smile dwells a little longer, That's where the West begins."

The evening's entertainment is an auspicious preparation for the more serious business of the week, which starts with the regular sessions on Tuesday.

The opening exercises in the morning are inspiring, each day beginning with a sincere petition for divine guidance. The spirit of harmony which marks the whole convention is due to the realization that this organization stands as a power for that "righteousness that exalteth a nation." A marked feature also of the early exercises of the morning is the community singing under the able leadership of Mr. John F. Lyons, musical supervisor for the schools of Tacoma. He arouses enthusiasm and gives so many practical ideas encouraging the delegates that they have faith that they can go home and do likewise.

## SECTIONAL MEETINGS

After the singing, the leaders of the sectional meetings are introduced. The Department of Home Service, including Home Economics, Home Education and Thrift, is under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Osgood Holland, National Vice-President from New York.

The Department of Health, including Child Hygiene, Racial Health, and Physical Education is led by Mrs. Isaac Lea Hillis, National Vice-President from Iowa.

The Department of Education, taking up the subjects of Kindergarten, Humane and Visual Education, High-School Problems and the Schools of Alaska, is presided over by Mrs. Orville T. Bright, of Illinois, Chairman of Parent-Teacher Associations in Schools.

On Wednesday afternoon two more sectional meetings are held, the round table on Public Welfare, including Juvenile Court, Better Films, Country Life, Monogamous Marriage and Legislation being under the direction of Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, Chairman of Literature from Illinois.

The session devoted to Organization and Efficiency includes Finance, Extension, Press and Publicity, Child Welfare and Membership and it is conducted by Mrs. A. H. Reeve, Editor of the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE and National Chairman of Country Life.

#### REVISION OF BY-LAWS

One of the most vital advance movements this year which the Board of Managers is bringing before the Convention for its approval is a revised set of By-Laws, and the petition to the Congress of the United States for an extension of Charter.

These subjects have been thoroughly and repeatedly discussed at several meetings of the Board of Managers during the past year and finally unanimously approved. On Wednesday morning we listen to the report of Mrs. A. H. Reeve, the chairman of this committee, and it so clearly sets forth the necessity for these changes and so logically explains the details that after a few minor changes are made, our convention unanimously approves the extension of charter and adopts the By-Laws.

#### REPORTS

On Tuesday afternoon come the reports of the officers, the chairman of the Endowment Fund, of South American Extension and the reports of the Executive and Field Secretaries. These are interesting and vital and will be given later in the magazine, as will also the reports of the State Presidents and Department Chairmen, all of which tell of the accomplishments of the past twelve months and include plans for the work of the coming year.

#### EVENING ADDRESSES

More time is given this year for reports, Round Tables and discussions, and the evenings only are devoted to listening to outside speakers. On Tuesday evening, after warm greetings by Mrs. C. Arthur Varney, president of the Washington State Branch, Mrs. Victor Malstrom, President of the Tacoma Council, and Mr. William F. Geiger, the city superintendent of schools, the principal address is by Mrs. Josephine Corliss Preston, the state superintendent of schools. Her plea is for "right adjustment between individuals in order that the machinery of life may run more smoothly for the common good. Better building, better equipment, better teaching, compulsory attendance and vocational guidance for all, these are paramount in the welfare of our future citizens."

On Wednesday evening at the Lincoln High School the speakers are Dr. E. O. Holland, president of Washington State College, and Dr. Henry Suzzalo, president of the University of Washington. Dr. Holland speaks on the "Fundamentals in Public Education" naming the three great socializing agencies in civilization as the home, the church and the school and one of his statements is this: "Schools will fade, churches go down, civilization will break, unless the home is preserved." Dr. Suzzalo takes for his subject "Laymen and Experts in Public Education" and proves that the modern education is far ahead of the schools of long ago. He tells us that "the little red school house is the greatest human scrap heap. On it we find the minds of lovers of handicraft, managers of people, artists, musicians, gifted men of business and poets. A broad course of education must guarantee that what God gave you, you may have a chance to discover."

On Friday evening a wonderfully accurate and interesting address is given on "Washington the Evergreen State" including the history of the Northwest by Dr. Edward Stephen Meany. He is followed by Mr. Ralph Swetman, who emphasizes the coöperation between parents and teachers and says that "the parents stand for the policies of education and the teachers coöperating must work out these policies in

the best way." Dr. E. O. Sisson, on "The Education of an American Citizen," is the last speaker of the evening. He states that "the teachers of the future must be better equipped, more deeply experienced, and must rise to at least equal standing in the public esteem with the lawyers and physicians. The uplift of the teaching profession is the most immediate and imperative duty to those great ends."

One of the most helpful speakers of the afternoon is Miss Mary Frazee, who comes fresh from her morning of school teaching in a rural school and arouses great interest by advocating "greater freedom for children, more out of doors, closer sympathy with nature, less 'squelching' on the part of teachers and parents and more real comradeship with the boys and girls." There is no intimation at this time that it is the last time we shall hear her, and that before the summer vacation she will be called to her heavenly home. Thankful for her ennobling influence, let us act on her words of wisdom.

#### RELAXATION AND RECREATION

Never before has there been so much stress laid on the necessity of daily relaxation if the delegates would reap the full benefit of the convention. The National Convention Committee has arranged such interesting events that at the last of the strenuous sessions there is no diminution of enthusiasm or interest,—the banquet on Monday evening, the delightful sightseeing trip about Tacoma at the close of the afternoon session, the reception at the new Scottish Rite Temple succeeding the evening meeting on Tuesday, the banquet at the Lincoln High School on Wednesday evening, the athletic program under the supervision of the Department of Education on Thursday evening, where in the Gymnasium all play games and watch the boys in their wrestling matches, and finally the climax reached on Friday afternoon when the wonderful annual gathering takes place at the Stadium. That is indeed a gala day and thousands of parents and visitors are honored guests and are tendered a beautiful tribute by the 17,000 pupils who salute them by waving their caps for a full minute. This turns the big arena into an immense field of beautiful colors which blend harmoniously with the background of color in the tiers of seats, the green hills in the distance and the wonderful blue waters of Puget Sound as a border.

Indeed this marvelous exhibition of a whole city meeting together for recreation and play, if carried out generally throughout all the states, would necessarily result in a harmony of thought and action which would go far towards solving the economic problems which confront our country today.

Tacoma appreciates its children. It has inaugurated a series of meetings for them called the Song and Story Hour. On Saturday succeeding the convention the delegates are invited to attend and there is a large audience of children with a sprinkling of interested adults on the sides and in the rear. One of the most interesting features is the testing of the knowledge of the pupils in classical music and the composers. The first few notes on the piano bring forth a frantic waving of hands and both title and composer are named. This is followed by a story by Mrs. Elwell Hoyt, our chairman on Pre-School Age circles and after singing, another story by your President.

The convention over, many of the delegates accept the invitation for a sight-seeing automobile trip around Seattle followed by a luncheon given by the Seattle Chamber of Commerce and the Seattle Council and Mothers' Congress Circles to visiting officers and delegates of the National organization at the Seattle Yacht Club. In the after-dinner toasts Dr. Suzzalo remarks, "Here in Seattle the country is looking to you Parent-Teacher workers with your avowed and proved devotion to the American child as the bulwark of our public education, and the schools look to you to help them in carrying not only their legitimate burdens but those thrust upon them by broken families and ineffectual churches."

The annual convention is passing into history, the delegates are departing for their various homes. There are many expressions of satisfaction for the knowledge and inspiration gained, for the added vision of the importance of the work and a desire that the Parent-Teacher Associations shall soon reach every home and every school in our country.

KATHARINE CHAPIN HIGGINS

**A SINGING COMMUNITY**

BY CAROLINE KOHLSAAT,

*Chairman, Community Chorus Committee,  
Illinois Council of Parent-Teacher Associations*

Are you a singing community? Do you meet regularly to sing with joy the fine sincere songs of the world—songs of sentiment, of patriotism, and of praise? If you do, your community is to be congratulated, for a good live community chorus is the best possible indication of a high type of civic spirit. People who sing well together are pretty certain to work well together. The war taught us this. Who can doubt that we did our part better, bought bonds more liberally, stood hardships better, lived better, because we sang together?

Then, under the stress of strong emotions men, women and children everywhere sang with genuine enthusiasm. The air was resonant with "Over There," "Keep the Home Fires Burning" and "The Long, Long Trail." These were ephemeral songs, and pathetically inadequate to express the heights and depths of our feeling, but because everyone could sing them they served a purpose as a sort of emotional safety valve. Once finding that we could sing, and that it did us good to sing, we actually learned "America," "The Star Spangled Banner" came to have less terror for us, and we sang with new appreciation and fervor our own great national songs, "America The Beautiful" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

We often hear the phrase "The lesson of the war." This is our lesson of the war, that we shall *today* live better, serve our community, our nation and the world better if we sing together. Now, more than ever, the country needs inspired citizens. There is no occupation more uplifting and inspiring than singing together.

We must admit, however, that really successful community singing—singing that is vital, that refreshes and stimulates, and that carries on into every-day living—de-

pends on at least two factors in addition to the willingness to sing. These other factors are a good leader and good songs—Wherever community choruses are alive and vigorously functioning today it is because they have been fortunate in respect to the one of these factors and wise in respect to the other.

It is true that a good song leader is born, not made, and it is almost equally true that a good song is born and not made. At least not commercially made, for the most fundamental quality of a good song is sincerity. Let us be discerning and look for the songs that are a genuine expression of honest thoughts and feelings common to us all. There is an abundance of such songs in the world—enough to supply our community choruses for years to come. We may choose from among them songs for every mood from grave to gay, and for every degree of singing ability. One does not have to be a musical "high brow" to detect, or appreciate, or sing, a good song, for excellence in a song is not synonymous with difficulty; in fact the simpler the song the more direct and genuine it is likely to be.

If physical realization were all we sought it could be found in a cheap or vulgar song, but with such realization would go a mental and moral relaxation that would be insidiously dangerous to a community. On the other hand, hearty participation in a *fine* song engages our highest emotions, petty thoughts and nagging cares are forgotten, and we are not only relaxed but refreshed, invigorated, and inspired.

How could we spend more profitably one evening a week than in singing together? Next to its church the most heart-warming, mentally refreshing, socially reforming institution a community can get up is its Community Chorus.

## THE MANNERS OF CHILDREN

(From the *London Telegraph*)

America is concerned for her children. She finds that, as compared with the European child, hers behave badly. Some rumors to that effect had, indeed, reached us long ago, but it is plainly impossible for the European parent to express any opinion as to their truth. No intelligent mother—at least, in the hearing of others of her profession—permits herself to sanction praise for her own offspring which involves censure upon her little friends. This, however, we may permit ourselves to say—that if American children are naughtier than ours the United States has our sympathy!

There can, indeed, be very few of us on this side of the ocean who have any material for forming an opinion. Some of us may know a good many Americans, but it is in the nature of things that men and women only obtain a sound working knowledge of children domiciled in the neighborhood of their own homes. The American child, then, means to us the American child on tour or in literature.

In literature, the lovable imps of that nursery classic, "Helen's Babies," or the immortal boys of Mark Twain, seem to us, allowing for dialect and local color, just like the boys and the imps we have of our own. Many of us may have met on our travels, as Mr. Kipling certainly did in the person of young Harvey Cheyne, a very thoroughly spoiled American child. But candor compels the admission that children are also spoiled in Europe.

The teachers' council in New York has nevertheless decided that the behavior of the European child is a far, far better thing than the American child's and that

"something must be done about it, and done soon." There are many maxims on the subject, from Solomon's down. The teachers' council expresses no opinion on the casual connection between sparing the rod and spoiling the child, but proposes to apply the latter doctrine of the English educationist, "manners maketh man," by direct action.

A course of instruction in manners is to be given in both the high schools and the elementary schools. We are vain enough to think that in many of our schools manners are taught, but not by a special course or as a separate subject of study. This part of education is, with us, a matter of tradition and atmosphere, so far as the schools undertake it. But it seems that the American teachers have no illusions as to the decisive influence, for they pronounced that without the help of the parents any improvement which the schools might effect would be "rather artificial."

The family and the home are, after all, the root of the matter. If at home vulgarity rules, no school can be trusted to make its children anything but vulgar. The American teachers deplore the American parents' way of praising as "cute" and "clever" ugly tricks of conduct. Even so in England, masters and mistresses have been heard to lament that the wholesome influence of school and schoolfellows is often destroyed by the extravagances of home life. When we are so busy in overhauling our educational system and demanding more and more of the schools and the teachers, it is worth while to remember that the home and the parents also have work to do.

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"The time to awaken the imagination, which is the creative faculty, is early childhood; and the most accessible material for this education is the literature which the race created in its childhood."—H. W. Mabie.

**"THE HIGH TIDE OF CIVIC WORK"**

BY ELIZABETH TILTON

CHAIRMAN OF LEGISLATION, NATIONAL CONGRESS OF MOTHERS AND PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS

Legislation is the high tide of all civic work. Good things are tried out in local communities, and when their worth is proved, the call comes to give them to everyone, and the only way to do this is to pass a Federal law. There is no better investment of energy than that put into the passage of a beneficent law; it is so far-reaching in its effect.

To be effective, we must focus on a few good measures. I believe we should stress educational bills, and endorse the great outstanding issues always with us. The Program already passed by your Board, known as the "Six P's"—six prominent welfare issues before Congress—has been given you in the June issue of the MAGAZINE, so that you may have it at home, submit it to your state and local organizations and put it in your local press. Publicity educates everybody, and only wide education can give us the vote we want. It sounds quite easy, but to pick and choose has taken endless consultation; to decide just what Peace measures we should stress, for example, I have consulted the U. S. Navy, the Medium and the Radical Peace people and finally landed on the ground I gave you.

Beside being your Legislative Chairman, I represented you on the Women's Advisory Committee of the U. S. Public Health Service, and I present the following report, to which we are asked to give further publicity.

First, it was the general opinion that we ought to work for a whole-time paid health officer in all of our country districts, for today 92 per cent. of these districts have only a doctor who between his cases does what he can for sanitation and health. In consequence the death rate in our cities is falling three times as fast as in our rural districts, a bad state of affairs, for four fifths of our population is in the country.

Another interesting statistic was that when smallpox broke out in Missouri, only two people had it in St. Louis where they had had compulsory vaccination in the schools for fifteen years; in Kansas City where there had been no compulsory school vaccination, 250 people had it.

Another statistic was that out of the 18,000 disabled veterans from the last war that the United States Public Health Service must carry, only one tenth of one per cent. had sent in any complaint.

**SOCIAL HYGIENE**

Great stress was placed on rooting out vice-diseases. Women's Organizations were asked to coöperate in holding next year, under the auspices of the United States Public Health Service, Institutes for Instruction. Maps are available showing where free Clinics are needed: also where the Red Light still burns. Interesting figures came from the Inter-departmental Board of Social Hygiene, showing that while removal of an open traffic (whether of liquor or vice) does not cure an evil, it does reduce it. Thus while our army rate at home for treatments is 66 per 1,000, abroad in Germany where the traffic is open and legalized, it is 165 per 1,000. Another hopeful statistic was the following: while after the Mexican, Civil, Spanish-American and Philippine Wars rates for treatment of vice-disease rose about 25 per cent. above normal, now they are running about 20 per cent. below normal. "Undoubtedly," said Lieut. Sydney Morgan, who compiled the figures, "Prohibition, Education, Preventive Medicine and Social Service have begun to tell."

**SUMMARY**

1. Work for whole-time paid Health Officers.
2. Work for free clinics for the treatment of venereal diseases.

3. Close the red-light districts.
4. Hold an Institute of Instruction about Social Hygiene in your district.

#### IMITATION MILK

The Dairy Producers are urging Women's Organizations to work for a bill forbidding shipment from State to State of filled milk. Filled milk is milk from which the butter fats have been removed and cocoanut oils put in their place, thereby making the price about three cents a quart cheaper. This milk is not good for babies, as they need the butter fats, but it is good enough for grown-ups who get the butter fats in other things. But though it says on the cans that this milk is not good for babies, still it is claimed that some women do buy it and it is thought it should therefore be forbidden. It is a moot question, as, of course, there is good nourishment in this milk, for general purposes.

#### SHALL WE DISARM BY EXAMPLE

Another interesting question was the cut of \$200,000,000 called for in appropriations for Army and Navy. Up to now we have disarmed by international agreement but now the call is to disarm by example, for this cut would place us in preparedness below Japan and Great Britain, but the National Council for Disarmament claims that the financial situation in those nations is such that they will be only too glad to reduce if the United States will take the lead, and we, by our isolation, are in a position to take that step, it is claimed.

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Secretary of the Law Enforcement Committee of the American Bar Association has written me a letter calling on the organized parents and teachers of the country to work for law observance. I am sure we are glad to respond, and I hope that you will allow me to write to them that as a body at our Convention we voted to work for law observance, on the ground that life and property are secure only when men feel that they are not at liberty to break any law that they personally do not like, and that we pledge ourselves to show our appreciation of judges and public officials who strictly perform the duties of their high office; that we call for jail sentences for the rum-runner and the boot-legger, and that we will make known as far as possible the benefits of prohibition, even under loose enforcement. A small sticker may be had from your Legislative Department, which I hope you will use and distribute to your local press. The figures come from a survey made by 240 Charity organizations in this country, the results of which show a remarkable reduction in cases in which drink figured, in the families coming to them for relief.

I find many women heartily approving of President Harding's call for law observance. It is said he has made many friends among the women by pointing out the dangers that come from prominent citizens who feel they can obey the laws they like and disregard those they do not like. They agree that to break the law is to be neither a Democrat nor a Republican but a criminal.

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"Lend not beyond thy ability, nor refuse to lend out of thy ability; especially when it will help others more than it can hurt thee. If thy debtor be honest and capable, thou hast thy money again, if not with increase, with praise. If he prove insolvent, do not ruin him to get that which it will not ruin thee to lose: For thou art but a steward, and another is thy Owner, Master and Judge."—*William Penn*.

## PARENTS AS EDUCATORS

"The Child's first school is the family"—*Froebel*.

### IMPORTANCE OF RELIGIOUS TRAINING—THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BY MARY COLLINS TERRY

No little child should be without religious training, for it is as essential to the balance and beautiful growth of his character as the proper food is to his body. This training can be given in the home and in the Sunday School. Both are excellent means, and should supplement each other, for it is when these two institutions work together that the child receives the highest benefit.

Because of the ease with which the child learns, and the capacity to retain even unto old age what was learned in childhood, religious training should begin early. Do not say, "Oh, when my boy is old enough to decide for himself I will let him choose his church." You do not leave his manners until then, so why his morals? High ideals and a good moral code are most easily formed in his plastic years.

The child is naturally an imitator and hero worshipper. The stirring stories of Bible heroes and the application of the truths of the great old Bible stories go far toward helping him formulate the rules which are to govern his own actions now and in later life.

The parents in the home are the ones whose high privilege it is to begin their children's religious training. It is a pity that so many, through thoughtlessness or neglect or a false sense of unfitness, neglect this sweet duty. The Sunday School next should take up and help to broaden and develop the child's religious experience.

There are several ways in which the Sunday School does its work a little better than

the same work can be done at home. In the first place children are drawn to other children. They naturally tend to work or play in groups; to be with other children, imitating or joining in their activities, gives incentive to Sunday School work.

The Sunday School carries on a regular and systematic course of Bible study, adapted to the ages of children, and presenting the most suitable Bible material in an attractive form.

A visit to the live modern Sunday School in the average church would be a means of enlightenment and surprise to many. Hand work, simple songs, and rhythm for little children; and home work, class competition, and even dramatics and pageantry for the older ones, have been the means of making Bible study delightful, attractive, and absolutely indispensable to our children.

There are ways in which we parents can and ought to coöperate with the Sunday School. Our children can learn to be punctual and regular. We should show our interest in their progress and experiences. How proud they would be if father or mother would also go to Sunday School, perhaps to the adult Bible class . . . "A little child shall lead them." Then let us have faith in the old Bible promise:

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Issued by the National Kindergarten Association.

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We cannot kindle when we will  
The fire which in the heart resides;  
The spirit bloweth and is still,  
In mystery the soul abides;  
But tasks in hours of insight willed  
Can be through hours of gloom fulfilled.

With aching hands and bleeding feet  
We dig and heap, lay stone on stone;  
We bear the burden and the heat  
Of the long day and wish 'twere done.  
Not till the hours of light return,  
All we have built do we discern.—*Arnold*.

## JUVENILE DELINQUENTS NEED SCIENTIFIC STUDY

From The Children's Bureau, Washington, D. C.

"A much larger proportion of mental defectives is to be found among delinquents as they appear in court than in the ordinary population, perhaps ten times as many," says Dr. William Healy, Director of the Judge Baker Foundation in Boston, in a report just made public by the U. S. Department of Labor through the Children's Bureau. But Dr. Healy points out that individuals mentally normal are misdoers, quite apart from matters of mental capacity, and that many feeble-minded people live decently and do their work well. Determining the causes of criminal tendencies and "deciding treatment that is tremendously influential at the formative period of life," Dr. Healy says, "vastly outweighs in importance . . . any decision of a criminal case that may take weeks in court or perhaps fill pages of the newspapers."

The report, entitled "The Practical Value of Scientific Study of Juvenile Delinquents," declares that all delinquent children need scientific treatment, and that mental tests alone do not suffice to give a true picture of the child's personality without study of his home, companions, play, employment, special temptations and bad examples, quality of schooling and other conditions of environment,

taken together with his whole mental life, his lack of knowledge or his misinformation, his habits, secrets, grudges, and ideas.

This report is one of a series issued by the Children's Bureau with the purpose of furthering discussion and development of juvenile court standards. Scientific work in juvenile courts, it declares, is a natural expression of the modern demand for results, since imprisonment alone does not check crime. Numerous examples of cases are given in which complete scientific study, including that of social environment, aided to change the career of a so-called "born criminal."

While this form of study is not confined to the usual technical limits and while its consideration is recommended to "aid the everyday judgments of any who wish to deal understandingly with juvenile delinquents," "it is not to be supposed," Dr. Healy says, that it can be carried out "by anybody except someone with interest and training," and he concludes that if lack of scientific students impedes progress, more workers must be trained in this field. And if the expense deters from individual studies in the courts, it must be considered what the cost of diagnosis amounts to in the light of the heavy cost of a delinquent career.

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## TWO CONVENTIONS

BY CORA C. BRIGHT

In 1915 the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations held their Annual Convention in Portland, Oregon, May 12-16. In 1922—just seven years later—the National organization again sought the beautiful Northwest for its Convention, choosing, this time, Tacoma, Washington, and the week of May 8.

Complete newspaper clippings of the two meetings afford some comparisons that may be of interest to readers of the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE.

### MORE ROSES IN 1915

The six officers and delegates alighting from the "official" train at Portland were greeted by a smiling group of local officers and presented with armfuls of roses. It was rose time in the "Rose City" and never will the visitors from afar forget that week! There were roses in the rooms of the Hotel Benson prepared for the arriving guests. There were banks of roses, showers and sprays of roses, baskets of roses, and trailing vines of roses in every

meeting place, even the committee rooms; roses came, literally and actually, by the wagon load and were replaced by fresh almost before they had begun to wilt. The poor patrons of florist shops, where roses sell at five dollars the skimpy dozen, drew deep breaths of fragrance and delight and kept forever after a blooming memory of the affluence of Oregon.

#### BUT FEWER DISTANT DELEGATES

Delegates, however, were far less numerous in 1915 than in 1922 and that in spite of a much lower rail rate. The officers present at Portland were Mrs. Schoff, President, Mrs. Higgins, Mrs. Bright and Mrs. Tate, Vice-Presidents (there were only five National Vice-Presidents at that time) and Mrs. Thacher, Treasurer. State Presidents attending were, Mrs. Felts, Oregon, Mrs. Higgins, Mass., Mrs. Rowell, California, Mrs. Beach, Washington, and Mrs. Dick, Colorado.

Among the National Department Chairmen were Miss Locke, Kindergarten Department, and Mrs. Noble, Membership Department. These lists may not be complete but are all that are recorded in the newspaper file. The number of delegates is nowhere given but the papers contain the statement that a contest between Tacoma and Seattle as to which had the larger delegation was won by Tacoma.

At the Tacoma Convention these National officers were present: President, Mrs. Higgins, Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Mears, Hillis, Holland, Crutcher, and Todd (five of the ten Vice-Presidents now in office) and the Treasurer, Mrs. Rowell.

The following states sent their Presidents: California, Missouri, Washington, New York, Kentucky, Tennessee, Oregon, Idaho, Illinois, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, and Delaware. Several states sent representatives for their Presidents and there were eight Department Chairmen in attendance.

The newspapers show a few names as recorded at both conventions: Mrs. Hig-

gins, Mrs. Rowell, Mrs. Bright, Mrs. Noble and Miss Bottomly. Also, among the more local women, Mrs. Todd, Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Hayhurst, Mrs. Nichols and that kindly promoter of happiness for all, Mrs. Schwartz.

The Tacoma convention gave satisfactory evidence of growth and progress on all sides; in the courage, youth, and enthusiasm of its workers, in the spirit of tolerance and consideration shown by each to all, and in the general serious acceptance of the essential nature of the work to be accomplished and the responsibility of every member for her share.

#### STILL ON TRIAL IN 1915

Although our organization was nineteen years old at the time of the Portland convention, we had not yet, apparently, been fully accepted by the general public nor even by the teaching force. In evidence of this were the many questions as to our motherhood—whether it was actual or theoretical; as to how many of us could make good bread; and, of course, the ancient and time-honored jocose query as to who was taking care of our children while we were away telling other people how children should be taken care of.

#### ACCEPTED WITHOUT QUESTION IN 1922

The convention at Tacoma proved that wonderful progress had been made in our public standing. No longer was it necessary to spend time in the argument for Parent-Teacher Associations or Mothers' Circles; the need and the success of our work had become established facts and the questions now before us had to do with perfecting our plans, improving our machinery for advancement, and establishing lines of coöperation with other organizations.

It was as if our 1915 roses of promise had been transformed into our 1922 snow-white, shining Mount Tacoma, grounded on the solid earth yet aspiring always to the heights above.

## THE SOCIAL SIDE OF THE CONVENTION

By MARY L. LANGWORTHY

I am not quite sure what the editor-in-chief meant when she assigned this topic to me, so I am just going to talk about the glad hours that we shall remember always as the leaven in our serious week of business and education.

Out where the handelasp's a little stronger,  
Out where the smile dwells a little longer—

Where there's more of singing and less of sighing—

And a man makes friends without half trying,

That's where the West begins.

they sang to us, and before the week was over we learned to believe it.

## OUR WELCOME

When we received our delegates' badges we were given a nosegay of that flower of Tacoma, the rohdodendron, so real in appearance that it was only when we tried to smell it that we discovered its paper parentage. These and the continuously welcoming smile that was bestowed with them was one of the memorable bits of the convention.

From the great banquet the night of our arrival, when we were welcomed to all the joys and beauties of the State of Washington (including the big apples), to the last day, when we said goodbye, we were made to feel that no group of people had ever been so gladly received in their midst.

The only one chary of giving a whole-hearted welcome was the superb Mt. Tacoma, but when, on the next-to-last day of our sojourn she did drop her mist veil and stand revealed, we understood why she seems to cast a spell over all of Washington, and felt that she would have been worth waiting a month to see, if necessary, as she stood there, serene, opalescent, magnificent.

## RECEPTION

There will long remain in my memory the Reception at the splendid New Scottish Rite Temple. It was scheduled as a Reception and Dance, and there was some misgiving on the part of our hostesses lest the invitation to dance should offend any of our more conservative members. It was a revelation, however, to most of the eastern delegates, and gave us an illuminating example of how some of our dance difficulties may be overcome. Here, in a Parent-Teacher dance, fathers and mothers, grandfathers and grandmothers, college and high-school boys and girls danced together. It was like a great family party where no one had to be chidden for improper conduct, because, somehow, we see ourselves as others see us in the presence of the whole family, and social life is more normal under such circumstances. I was personally grateful for this example of wholesome recreation.

## THE RECREATION DRIVE

One afternoon they took us for a delightful drive through the principal parts of the city and out through Point Defiance Park, a vast tract heavily forested, with great natural beauty which has been kept intact so far as possible, only enough improvements having been made to render its charm more accessible to the people.

## STADIUM DAY

And then came the unforgettable Stadium Day with its Pageant of Schools, "Expressing in a measure the Educational Spirit of a City" and "honoring the National Parent-Teacher Association." This is an annual event in Tacoma, but the date this year was put forward in order that we might participate in it and receive its joyous inspiration.

The Stadium is built in a ravine deep

and broad, beside the High School, opening on the Bay where the gleaming blue waters make an exquisite background for pageant or game. It seats forty thousand people, but accommodates, with the green banks above, sixty thousand—and the accommodations were taxed to their utmost on this wonderful day. I don't want this to sound statistical, but how can I give you an idea of the magnitude of the whole feast of beauty unless I tell you that there were *seventeen thousand* school children taking part in the pageant? Each school wore a distinctive color as to cap and rosette so that parents and friends knew just where their darlings were, in the march, even though the distance made it impossible to distinguish faces. The three hundred Parent-Teacher and Pre-School officers wore white dresses and turquoise caps, making a strong note in the general colorful kaleidoscope. Unendingly sixteen abreast, they marched past us, in perfect order, with no confusion and yet with an entire absence of stiff precision; then after marching around the rim of the stadium floor, they banked themselves close and solid, at the bay end of the stadium, covering perhaps a third of the floor space. At a signal from somewhere, still marching to music, the mass astonishingly unfolded itself, expanding gently, as though inflated by some ethereal force until it covered the whole vast space, making us gasp with the magic beauty of the living color. It was like a tremendous bed of sweet peas, and later, when they saluted our president, Mrs. Higgins, each child waving a flower-like cap, it was as though a breath from Heaven had swept down, swaying and rocking them. Under the Song Leader, they sang several songs, followed by the salute and pledge to the Flag, spoken, in perfect unison, by seventeen thousand voices guided by the same incomparable leader, John Henry Lyons. Then came Calisthenic Exercises, Folk Dances, a Maypole Drill, Maze Marching, a Circus and Playground Games, all of them fine examples of perfect training and joy in recreation.

Mrs. Higgins was conducted to the plat-

form on the floor of the stadium, saluted by the children and presented with two souvenirs of the day, one a framed photograph of the young Indian who had so delightfully sung for us at one of our sessions, and the other a beautiful picture of "THE" mountain, Tacoma. It was, altogether, a thrilling experience, this Tacoma Stadium Day, and one we shall not forget.

#### LUNCHEON

The Blue Bird Luncheon, under Mrs. Hoyt's Department of Pre-School Circles, was a very delightful and beautiful function, and left us all happier because of it. With birds singing all about us, with blue bird place-cards, with a Maeterlinck's "Blue Bird" program, it made a very charming spot in the week's program. We are hoping to hear in the near future of the publication of the lovely songs written by Tacoma women which were sung at this time.

#### "RECREATION NIGHT"

"Recreation Night" at the Stadium High School was the result of another happy plan. There was an interesting and beautiful athletic program by pupils of the school and, again, "Dancing—Parents, Teachers, Pupils and Delegates," as the printed program announced.

#### TEA

An unexpected and delightful addition to our entertainment was a tea given to the officers and delegates by Mrs. Anna Steese Richardson of the Woman's Home Companion, where many of us who had been, up to this time, too busy for mere conversation, met and chatted happily over our cups.

#### THE CHILDREN'S HOUR

The final event arranged for our pleasure was the Song and Story at Pantages Theater, a unique and charming interlude between two strenuous sessions of the Post-Convention Board Meeting, arranged by

Mrs. J. L. McMurray. The informal talk on the full orchestra, by a great authority, the illustrations by solo instruments, the admirably selected program numbers, and Mrs. Gault's lovely singing, held children and guests entranced for almost an hour. Mrs. Higgins gave one of her inimitable little talks to the boys and girls, who applauded her heartily, and received literally with open arms a huge bouquet of pink roses presented by a little pink rosebud of a girl.

Extending all through these other delightful demonstrations of good-will, like the string carrying the pearls about my lady's neck, was the life-saving motor-corps service which was available from nine every morning until twelve every night—or later. It was a difficult service but a most grateful one.

Early in our convention Mr. Lyons, who came to us every day to lead our singing,

taught us a song of his own which he called, smilingly, "the National Anthem of the Convention," and it ran thus:

I don't want to go home,  
I don't want to go home.  
The summers are hot  
And the winters are cold;  
I am too young to be feeling so old.  
I shall never forget, the good times  
I've had here, (you bet)  
Oh dear! I want to stay here;  
I don't want to go home.

It was a demoralizing song, for as we sang it again and again, we grew to believe it, and by the time our week was past, it really expressed what a regrettable number of us felt. *Tacoma* means, I am sure, among other things, *Hospitality*, and we want our hostess city to know how warmly we appreciate her so richly fulfilling her name.

### THE HOUSEKEEPER'S LIBRARY

"Every housekeeper, young or old, has a right to her professional library," says Anne Lewis Pierce in the *Tribune Institute*. "What lawyer would hang out his shingle without his Blackstone to back him up? What doctor would begin to practice without his library on *materia medica* for consultation and advice? And how many women, when they begin to practice housekeeping, have any 'authorities' back of them on which to base their everyday work and with which to meet emergencies and special problems? Yet no professional man needs this more than the housekeeper, whose duties are so diverse, whose word is law in her own realm, on whom all sorts of demands fall, and who makes a home that radiates well-being, health, happiness and demonstrates to all who come and go in it the livableness of life,—or else she makes only a place that sends out widening circles of unhappiness, decreased vitality and discouragement in meeting the day's demands."

Miss Pierce's advice is good. As every professional man has his library, so should

the practicing, professing housekeeper have the benefit of others' experience in the highly technical job of homemaking. The books on this job are by no means dull reading. There are fascinating books on house plans, with drawings, costs, and the advice of the best architects. There are books on interior decoration for the average purse and for the home with a taste for period furniture and the money to pay for it. Budget suggestions that invite thrift; books of recipes and choice menus for large families and for kitchenettes; books on entertaining that make the most formidable function seem simple. The garden has its literature; there are practical books on health and "first aid"; books on cooking, canning, preserving, sewing, hat-making; books on community civics and on community hygiene. And most important of all are the books on the nursery: books on infant care, books on education and on children's reading, and books on the "training of parents."

No housewife of today can plead ignorance, with a wealth of information on every phase of her job easily available.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Miss Charl O. Williams has just accepted the chairmanship of the Committee on School Education in the Congress, and therefore her fine and stimulating address at the great meeting of the National Education Association held in Boston in July will be of especial interest to our readers.

It was sent to CHILD-WELFARE for publication, so it comes somewhat as a preliminary message from the new chairman. It is presented as given, save for the preliminary greetings and a few special allusions to the organization of the National Education Association.

### THE DEMOCRATIC AWAKENING AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION

AN ADDRESS BY CHARL ORMOND WILLIAMS

*President of the National Education Association*

We are entering upon a new era in education. The world is realizing more and more the primary importance of educated leadership and the fundamental necessity of intelligent citizenship. There is no other safe foundation for democracy. This fact places a new responsibility upon teachers everywhere. The individual teacher has an opportunity for larger service than she has enjoyed in years gone by. That opportunity has come in consequence of the development of a new idea in professional organization—the idea of representation.

It took centuries of political experiment to develop the idea of representative government. Nations founded upon conquest came and went. Even the Roman Empire, which granted rights of citizenship to conquered peoples, failed to survive. Lacking the idea of representative government, it was unable to make the individual citizen responsible in the affairs of empire. Not until—in the thirteenth century—the principle of representation had birth in England, not until in later centuries it was extended and developed in America, did it become possible to build a vast nation in which the individual citizen had a responsible part.

This principle of representation which has had such great consequences in the development of modern democracies is now making itself felt as a powerful force in the

professional organization of teachers. It was indeed an inspiration to see gathered at Des Moines a year ago the chosen representatives of the teachers of the nation. It was a great satisfaction to realize that for the first time in American educational history there had been brought together a body of men and women, fully qualified to express the ideals and purposes of a membership of over 50,000 teachers. I am glad to report that growth in membership has continued and that you who sit here today carry the responsibility of acting for more than twice 50,000 teachers. What you say here and what you do here will be carried back to every community in the United States and will be a quickening influence in the lives of your colleagues who are not able to be present during these great days.

### THE FIRING LINE OF EDUCATION

Inspiring personal contact between teacher and pupil is the firing-line of education. Without it, education cannot produce a great citizenship. Time was when almost the entire attention of educational leaders was fixed upon these contacts within the schoolroom. Education carried much of the idea of cloistered isolation. That day is past. The true teacher of today is great, because he brings into his soul-touch with pupils the influence of a life rich in the inspiration and wisdom of the world of affairs.

We are coming now to see that if the teacher is to be all that he should be in his relations with pupils, he must himself participate in the responsibilities of citizenship and must share in the improvement of his profession. Inspiration is the soul of great teaching. No one can estimate the inspiration that is generated by the National Education Association with its growing membership of over 100,000. We have endeavored to make the program represent education as it is today and forecast the needs of education as they will be tomorrow. It is natural and inevitable that the theme of these meetings should be education and democratic awakening. There is definite connection between the democratic awakening that followed the war and the intensified interest in educational endeavor which is sweeping the civilized world.

The democratic awakening is affecting education profoundly. It is influencing the technique of instruction. Socialized recitation, project method, and other devices designed to develop individuality are being used more widely than in years past. The attitude which parents and teachers have toward children shows larger recognition of the child's point of view. Superintendents are finding ways of utilizing the initiatives and originalities of the teaching force in the improvement of the course of study and school management. People generally are coming to understand that education for political democracy must be followed by education for social and industrial democracy, if the future of civilization is to be secured. The leaders of humanity are facing with new courage the task of reconstructing the world's relationships, so that the interests of the common men and women shall receive larger recognition when world policies are shaped.

#### TRAINING FOR PEACE

These are some of the things that have come in consequence of the democratic awakening. For education they mean a new perspective, new problems, and new hope. The thinking leadership of the civilized world is determined

that every citizen must be educated for a place in peaceful society with as much thoroughness as in times of war he is educated for a place in the army. The world is challenging its educational forces to produce an education fundamentally sound in quality and abundant in quantity. Professional organizations have taken up the challenge and are destined to become the policy-determining agencies of the future. They have developed a new educational leadership—a new statesmanship. The significance of this new educational statesmanship is best seen in the light of history. Education in America has developed piecemeal. It is the product of experiments and rivalries—of enthusiastic and partial attempts to meet the educational needs of a democracy that has grown so rapidly in extent and complexity as to leave many educational plans out of date before they had become fairly established. There have been movements for academies and Latin schools and brilliantly led efforts to develop elementary schools, both public and private. Secondary education has been the chosen goal of one group of educational leaders while the enthusiasm of another group has sought all it could get for the development of higher education. Other leaders, with a vision of the importance of maintained intelligence among our entire citizenship, have worked for the establishment of free public libraries. Still other men and women have realized the importance of professionally trained teachers and have lent their energy to the development of normal schools and teachers' colleges. Too frequently these leaders have worked at cross purposes. They have sometimes feared lest the success of another enterprise might interfere with the development of their own. They have not often enough been able to see that the education of a democracy is a *great single comprehensive task*.

#### NATIONAL EDUCATION

The new leadership is coming to see education in this broader and more fundamental light. It is only a matter of time until

every State in the Union will have a program of education sponsored by the leadership of a great association designed to develop a system that will promote every type and kind of education. Educational leaders will have not less enthusiasm for their special work but more appreciation and more enthusiasm for educational enterprise generally.

It is only a matter of time until education will have larger national recognition and support, just as agriculture has grown in the support which it receives from the Federal Government. The Constitution of the United States gives the control of education to the various States. We could not if we would—and we would not if we could—change this fundamental principle of the American Government, but we must face squarely the fact that no one can be a citizen of the United States without first becoming a citizen of a State. If the United States is to have the kind of citizenship that its place in the family of nations demands, it must share with the States the great responsibility of public education. This responsibility is expressed in the Towner-Sterling Bill. This bill is sound. It is necessary. It represents the best educational statesmanship of our times. Daily it grows in strength with the people. A year ago the ultimate realization of its aims might have been doubted. To doubt it now would be to doubt the very tides.

The leadership of America in the affairs of the world is the greatest opportunity that has come to a nation in all history. It has been the aim of this program to recognize this great opportunity and to discuss the fundamental things needed to develop an educational system that will enable the nation to meet its growing obligations.

#### THE PROMISE OF DEMOCRACY

You have heard discussed the problem of the training of teachers in its various as-

pects. We all have as a result a new appreciation of the importance of the trained teacher. Failure in wartime to respond to the call for volunteers casts a stigma upon any community. May the day soon come when failure to send into the teacher-training institutions its proper quota of recruits will likewise be deemed unpatriotic. The teacher is the real maker of history, and no nation can rise above the vision and the character of its teachers.

Rural life and education have been emphasized in this program. It would be folly to contend that our rural life is more important than our industrial and commercial life. The welfare of all is found in the prosperity of all. But our rural life presents peculiar problems, serious problems, which must find solution in education. A survey of the disgraceful conditions in tens of thousands of rural schools is ample evidence of the need for constructive work. The farm boy and the farm girl are entitled to a square deal. The nation cannot afford not to give them a square deal, for it is from the underlying bed rock of the common people on the farms that the leadership of the nation is continually recruited.

These are only a few of the problems that we are here to consider. We are here representing every portion of the nation. We are here to meet together. We are here to get the inspiration of worthy ideals fostered by common action. We are here, because a country that is worth dying for is worth living intelligently for. We are here in the spirit that sent our fathers to these shores. We are here to forget self and to grow in service to the Republic. We are here representing that system of public education by which the nation has been great. We are here to dedicate ourselves anew to the further improvement of that system to the end that education of the people, by the people, and for the people shall make good the glorious promise of democracy.

## AN ORIGINAL IDEA

BY MRS. W. B. STANTON

An exhibit which caused much favorable comment at the recent California State Convention at San Diego was that of the Berkeley Federation of Parent-Teacher Associations, in the Second District.

The Federation has long cherished a dream of a Club House of its own, and this dream was symbolized in the beautiful doll house, built by Mr. R. Thode, President of the Burbank Parent-Teacher Association of Berkeley, and sent as the foundation of the Exhibit. The house, a long bungalow type, was of pleasing design and finish, the beautiful porches and pergola giving a charming effect.

Each department of the Federation was represented by dolls dressed in pastel shades of organdie, standing on the porch and walk, which brought out in bold relief the work in which each one engaged. This was planned and made possible by the Federation Home Chairman, Mrs. Ralph Sense, the department chairmen and others of the organization, and showed genuine originality, cleverness and plenty of hard work.

The Home and Education departments proved great favorites in the delegates' esteem, though each and every one was wonderful in its fulfillment. The smiling face of the mother in her "home" garb, with the little ones gathered around her, made one think of the blessings of the Home circle, as with arm extended she pointed to Education and the books of learning piled high at her side, bearing the titles, Home Economics, Internationalism, Vocation Training, Problems of Parents.

Philanthropy in pleasing garb with heavily laden basket on her arm, attested her willingness to serve needy children with not only the necessary shoes and clothing but good things to eat as well.

Scholarship with cap and gown and diploma needed no title. Neither did Founders' Day with the foundation stone of our Congress engraved with the names

of the Pioneers we revere, Mrs. Phoebe Hearst, and Mrs. Theodore Birney, and the number of years bearing silent testimony to this great cause.

American Citizenship towering in lovely white on the rock of our Nation (with many flags surrounding it) echoed the pure desire of Americans to be real brothers and sisters to those of other countries, while Patriotism held aloft our own Red, White and Blue.

Emblem and Magazine wore the pin of our Congress and carried the magazine that we love and by which we profit.

Extension showed (in the smaller dolls bound with tiny ribbon to the head, or larger one) the number of Clubs brought into the fold during the last year, even to the tiny baby representing the last Club to unite, while membership stood proudly by with banner bearing the inscription "Over 1500 in Membership."

Speakers' Bureau, Social Service, Civic League, and Reciprocity were resplendent in beautiful colors and becoming gowns and hats, while Thrift in demure garb carried her bank. Printing carried a tiny typewriter and pencil, and Finance a well-filled purse as her badge of service.

The face of Legislation showed an earnest desire to help in securing the right laws for Mother and Child, while Child Labor, with child dressed in working clothes, standing at a block where glared the words "Injustice," "Overwork," "Neglect," made a striking contrast to that of the nearby one who in dress of play with ball and glove, was showing the value of recreation and made us say again "Yes, all work and no play will make Jack a dull boy indeed."

Recreation was ready in sport suit and cap to sail in the canoe at her side, while Child Hygiene in the uniform of a nurse, displayed the child in the bath, with all the needed hygienic helps of this department.

Our Board of Education stood in man's apparel with gavel and stand, while a

cobbling outfit with boy at work, reminded us of the activities of our Mr. Thode, who has installed one at his own home and where he spends several days a week in teaching these boys to cobble their own and others' shoes.

And at last but not least Publicity, who is ever ready to give the right kind of publicity to child-welfare work, had been

placed on the roof of the house with a huge megaphone.

We hope in the study of this display that we have succeeded in making converts to department work. If one member has gone back to her Club with a firm desire to strengthen it, we believe that the work of these artists, to whom much praise is due, will not have been in vain.

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Do you covet distinction? You will  
never get it by serving yourself.  
Do you covet honor? You will get  
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#### THE POWER OF THE PRESS

Owing to a vacancy in office, no report of National Publicity was given at the annual meeting, but in view of its importance, the following suggestions have been taken from reports furnished by two states which have been especially successful in the results obtained, California and New Jersey.

Mrs. Herbert Stockton, of California, says:

"Publicity in the State of California has gone 'over the top,' inasmuch as the Chairman has received a full report from each District. Monthly publicity reports have been sent directly to the club editors of fifteen of the major papers of the state, an increase of four over last year, and we have received the hearty coöperation and support of these large dailies. A monthly report averaging 500 words has also been sent to the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE. It would be impossible to give the number of square inches used in the state papers, as at times whole pages have been devoted to Parent-Teacher Association activities, but it is not the number of inches that counts in real constructive publicity, so much as a good, short, interesting story, which will create a desire to become a member of the organization. Leaflets, furnished by the

State Congress, on 'Why Parent-Teacher Associations?' and 'The Home Department' were sent broadcast to newspapers in the state and to the District Publicity Chairmen, and as a result, the San Francisco *Examiner* published an article of 800 words on "As the Home Is, so Is the Nation." This article was sent through this paper to 300,000 homes, which shows what one leaflet can do in the right place.

"Publicity was also given the California Congress through a moving picture house, which showed the educational institutions of the city of San Jose, and among the prominent educators, featured the State President, Mrs. Ewing.

Two months prior to Founders' Day, data was sent to the newspapers, and notice of Mrs. Higgins' proposed trip through the state went to eleven major district papers many weeks before her arrival. Interviews were arranged for her, and thus publicity was given to the National Convention at Tacoma, her picture being used in introducing District and Convention items.

"Leaflets on Publicity, and clippings from local papers with resolutions passed at the State Executive Board Meeting have been sent to district chairmen, also copies of the stories, 'Parents as Ed-

ucators,' furnished by the National Kindergarten Association.

"From the district reports, the plan of action would seem to be: first, establish cordial relations with your local press, and second: keep it liberally supplied with news that is fresh, timely, and of interest to the general public."

Mrs. W. S. Abbott, of New Jersey, presents these suggestions:

"To be of constructive service, the Press Department needs many earnest, interested workers, with a real vision of the importance of our department in relation to both the Congress and our communities or associations. Press work is not inviting. There is no definite goal to be attained. Every reader looks for a different phase of Congress news. Brook-like, press work 'goes on for ever.' There is no praise, but instead, a 'read and run' attention and a good deal of criticism as we run. Because of this indefinite work, with no showy side, it is not easy to get Press Chairmen.

If our Department is to be of real use, every association must be doing press work and in an organized way. We need to think more of being an organism than an organization. That is what we want to be—a 'batch of yeast' that will raise the Congress and our local associations. Then we shall be of service.

"An outline of definite plans has been prepared and sent out and we are encouraged to have it highly approved by our National President, Mrs. Higgins.

"The plans make your County Press Chairmen responsible for the Congress and Parent-Teacher Association news of her county. As many Local Chairmen as she needs are secured by her. The Department is a machine of three parts: State Chairman, County Chairmen and Local Chairmen. Unless all are working together, the whole is poor. One individual of the Department is as important to the success of the work and the Congress as another.

There is also 'a party of the first part'

and that is Mr. Editor. We hear the advice 'Secure proper and regular space in your local papers' glibly given by some press 'advisers.' Why not secure 'proper and regular space' in the hotel parlors (we need office room!) in the garage, in law and medicine offices? These places sell something exactly as the editor does. He sells space in his paper for his living. The former are generous and hospitable on state occasions and they appreciate the work we are doing. They want to help us. But we do not ask them for weekly donations the year round. If we stop to think of the dozens of organizations as enthusiastic and worthy as our own, that are daily appealing to the editor for space, gratis, we shall be more grateful for the splendid courtesy and generosity of the papers and less critical of the few who occasionally do not print our news or who hesitate about giving us regular space.

"Two aims should guide all press workers for the present: (1) Give out such news as will reflect the work done by your association or county so as to stimulate, encourage and develop the associations and keep the communities alive to their efforts and interested in them. (2) Give it out in such a way that all will read it and get some help. Unless a uniform heading is used, the news, however good, will not fill either aim in a worthwhile way, for it may not be seen, and an item here and there will be read only by chance, if at all.

"In the outline of plans sent to our state chairmen, three things have been stressed as important: Regularity; *news*; and a uniform heading, if possible in all parts of the state."

Admirable press work has also been done by Mrs. Watson of Washington, Mrs. Whitlark of Michigan, Mrs. Kohn of New York, Miss Wilson of Delaware, and others, from whom no reports are at hand. Any or all of these experienced workers will gladly give suggestions as to the organization of this very important department, and on such foundations, any state should be able to build up a satisfactory service.

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"The plans make your County Press Chairmen responsible for the Congress and Parent-Teacher Association news of her county. As many Local Chairmen as she needs are secured by her. The Department is a machine of three parts: State Chairman, County Chairmen and Local Chairmen. Unless all are working together, the whole is poor. One individual of the Department is as important to the success of the work and the Congress as another.

There is also 'a party of the first part'

and that is Mr. Editor. We hear the advice 'Secure proper and regular space in your local papers' glibly given by some press 'advisers.' Why not secure 'proper and regular space' in the hotel parlors (we need office room!) in the garage, in law and medicine offices? These places sell something exactly as the editor does. He sells space in his paper for his living. The former are generous and hospitable on state occasions and they appreciate the work we are doing. They want to help us. But we do not ask them for weekly donations the year round. If we stop to think of the dozens of organizations as enthusiastic and worthy as our own, that are daily appealing to the editor for space, gratis, we shall be more grateful for the splendid courtesy and generosity of the papers and less critical of the few who occasionally do not print our news or who hesitate about giving us regular space.

"Two aims should guide all press workers for the present: (1) Give out such news as will reflect the work done by your association or county so as to stimulate, encourage and develop the associations and keep the communities alive to their efforts and interested in them. (2) Give it out in such a way that all will read it and get some help. Unless a uniform heading is used, the news, however good, will not fill either aim in a worthwhile way, for it may not be seen, and an item here and there will be read only by chance, if at all.

"In the outline of plans sent to our state chairmen, three things have been stressed as important: Regularity; *news*; and a uniform heading, if possible in all parts of the state."

Admirable press work has also been done by Mrs. Watson of Washington, Mrs. Whitlark of Michigan, Mrs. Kohn of New York, Miss Wilson of Delaware, and others, from whom no reports are at hand. Any or all of these experienced workers will gladly give suggestions as to the organization of this very important department, and on such foundations, any state should be able to build up a satisfactory service.

## OUR NEIGHBORS OVER THE WAY

At the Annual Convention of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations held in Madison, Wisconsin, in June, 1920, there was a representative from the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations. This representative was Mrs. Ada C. Courtice, of Toronto, the organizing secretary of the Federation. Since that time there has been the closest coöperation between these Canadian organizations and those of the United States. It is interesting to note that there has recently been started in British Columbia a second provincial federation and it is now the hope of these groups that by next Easter a National Canadian Association may be formed. To this end the Ontario officials are keeping in close touch with every province in Canada and helping in every way the formation of local associations.

Word has also come of the formation of the first international group, composed of the Home and School Associations of the Canadian border cities and the Parent-Teacher Association Council of Detroit. It is to be hoped that soon all of the border cities in the United States will join this group and that as soon as the National Canadian organization is perfected there may be formulated some plan for the close working together of these two groups.

In Canada the Government gives the Home and School Associations a grant sufficient to pay the expenses of an Organizing Secretary. At last report there were 225 Home and School Clubs in Ontario, most of them being affiliated with the Federation.

Ever since the organization of the Federation, Mr. J. B. McCready, of Toronto, has been its President. Recently Mr. McCready felt obliged to relinquish this work and Professor J. A. Dale, Director of the Social Service Department of Toronto University, was chosen to take it up.

At the Annual meeting of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations held at Tacoma in May, an interesting report of the progress of the movement in Canada was made by the Chairman of the Detroit Council, Mrs. Jobe. The National Congress sent a greeting to the Canadian Associations through their Executive Secretary assuring them of its interest and its readiness to assist them, and inviting their representatives to attend the annual meetings as guests until such time as the completion of their National organization shall make it possible for them to send delegates on a basis of international coöperation.

## KINDERGARTEN REPORT

Accept hearty greetings from your Kindergarten Chairman. She sincerely regrets that she cannot be with you.

Splendid work for kindergarten extension is being done by the Congress in all parts of the country.

Since our last annual meeting, two more states, with the aid of the Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations have secured legislation patterned after the law drawn by our Mrs. Rowell for California, under which that State has risen from ninth to first place in the nation in furnishing educational advantages for its

youngest school children. The states which now provide for the establishment of kindergartens upon petition are California, Arizona, Maine, Nevada, Texas, Kansas, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Notwithstanding our splendid achievements of the past, there remains much to be done before all of our children receive the early training to which they are entitled, but of which eight out of every nine are still being deprived. Therefore your National Chairman recommends—

First, that *legislation* be undertaken in the states where the laws are inadequate

for the prompt extension of kindergarten education.

Second, that *petitions for kindergartens* be presented to school boards in all communities where the number of children is sufficient to warrant the establishment of classes.

Third, that each State President include the kindergarten as a topic on the program of her convention.

Fourth, that each local branch devote at least *one meeting a year* to the consideration of this subject. (Programs may be secured from your National Kindergarten Chairman.)

Fifth, that each branch ask the editor

of its local paper to print the weekly articles on child training issued free to the press by the National Kindergarten Association as a means of helping parents solve their problems and of promoting interest in early education.

Cordial thanks are extended to the State Presidents and Chairmen of Legislation, Education and Kindergarten Extension who have coöperated in this work for little children during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

BESSIE LOCKE,

National Chairman of Kindergarten Extension

## HOME EDUCATION

In giving a report on home education, it is necessary to report on the progress of the home education project in the Federal Bureau of Education, which the Congress so faithfully fostered and supported for six years.

During the past year we have made progress in several definite directions. We have issued five new reading courses, one of which is prepared particularly for parents, containing a number of the more recent publications that deal with child care and education. We have included in this list some of the books which indicate the trend of modern education.

We have recently entered into coöperation with State Universities in Arkansas and Colorado in connection with the conduct of the home reading courses. There are now 16 State Universities in their Extension Divisions coöperating with the Bureau of Education. Some might question the value of this coöperation. In speaking of this plan one of the Directors of Extension said, "An established connection between the Federal and State services strengthens both services, if for no other reason that it implies harmony and absence of disconnected effort. The plan of decentralization, of using State

collaborators in administration is a good one as it helps to negative the fear of so-called federal domination of Education."

Another sign of progress is that the Commissioner of Education has called a Conference of Directors of Extension and Collaborators on Home Education. At this Conference the problems of the work will be discussed, and ways and means for extending the service will be suggested.

During the past year we have served eighty-three parent-teacher associations in connection with their programs, with reading courses or suggestions of various kinds.

Your Chairman recommends that you secure the closer coöperation of the Extension Divisions in the respective State Universities, many of which are now prepared to send out packet libraries and other helpful literature. It is further suggested that reading circles be formed for the reading of home reading course number 21, Twenty Good Books for Parents. This is one of twenty-one courses now available for distribution at the United States Bureau of Education at Washington.

Respectfully submitted,

ELLEN C. LOMBARD,

Chairman of Home Education

**"A MERE MAN" EXPRESSES HIS OPINION  
OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION**

One of the pleasant experiences of my life was my attendance at some of the sessions of the Parent-Teacher Association, and of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations held recently in Tacoma. To have a man in the audience was a sort of novelty—perhaps a curiosity! And possibly many of the good women present were wondering as to the thoughts passing through the mind of a mere man. From the point of safety and to permit free expression, this message is written anonymously and yet with the assurance that it springs from the heart!

Upon beholding the scene—the finely decorated platform, the appropriately gowned ladies, the motherly atmosphere, the sense of fitness, the hearty desire to do something—all these produced an uncertain attitude of mind, a feeling that one had been unjust in his estimation of the so-called gentler sex. To one of bachelor proclivities, after studying such wonderful women, the heart seemed to say, "Oh, Man, you have been selfish; bestir yourself and find a woman, like these. What a home might be yours!"

Now, in a serious frame of mind, the discussions in regard to giving instruction and assistance to mothers, were such as to make a person think and realize that the association was doing something of great value to state and nation. The stress laid upon a better understanding between parents and teachers was especially commendable and it is easy to see that on the return of the delegates to their respective communities, great good will result. Education received due consideration and the influences started will accumulate as the years pass and as to the happy outcome, no one can say where it will end.

Of particular interest to a man was this; the feeling that religion should not enter into the weighty deliberations, nor affect

the trend of affairs, insofar as creeds are concerned. The official courage thus displayed made it difficult to keep from indicating approval by applause (an improper thing for a lone man to do!).

Now as I vision the results of the meetings held in Tacoma, there is pictured, in the mind's eye, new hope, new inspiration, new ideals—better homes, better boys and girls (and what could be more inviting?), better living conditions, better coöperation between Protestant and Catholic, born of the education advocated, better citizenship as a consequence of the discussion groups, better Americans as an outcome of the keener understanding between heart, mind, soul.

A man's advice is: join your local Parent-Teacher Association, take an active part, thereby doing something helpful to the community, to the state, and to the nation. These bodies of men and women, or perhaps, more appropriately, women and men, afford excellent opportunity for self development and if the individual is improved thereby, the larger affairs of state and nation will be easy of solution.

In Parent-Teacher Associations, new leadership is assured to the country, and American democracy is thus given a better chance to work with greater ease and to result in a better citizenship. That, in itself, is a consoling thought for a weary world.

PUBLICIST.

*Editor's Note.*—This contribution was sent by a man, evidently a friend, who writes: "The article I am sending, I have had in mind for some time, and to have written it, brings pleasure and a feeling that I have fulfilled a duty. My contact with the sessions has given me new zest and a finer realization of the duties of life."

Could one ask a finer tribute to the spirit which prevailed at the recent Convention?

## FOREWORD BY THE EDITOR

To the observer in the audience at a great Convention, to reproduce even a vague sketch seems a task little less stupendous than the writing of "An Outline of History." Events, phases, personalities, ideals, mingle in memory as do the colors in a kaleidoscope, and only the general result—the re-charging of a tremendous organization with fresh enthusiasm, perseverance and energy, remains as a definite impression.

But fortunately it is not a task for one pen. The President's Message gives the story of the meeting, supplemented by emphasis on the social side which did so much to increase the feeling of unity, and the records of State Presidents and Committee Chairmen present the new lines of operation and coöperation.

The old idea that the test of a successful Convention was the quality of miscellaneous inspiration which could be absorbed from the greatest possible number of noted speakers has been discarded, and the question today is, not how much can be consumed, but how much can be digested, assimilated, and turned into creative energy.

The task of reducing to the limits of the magazine the immense mass of reports given at the Annual Meeting has been a difficult one, because from among so much

that was good, it was not easy to separate that which was best. It has been the desire of the editors to avoid duplication, repetition, and the presentation of work which, splendid and constructive though it be, is everywhere the same, and has become more or less the "routine" of the Congress.

New angles of vision, original ideas, fresh starting points, whatever marks *progress*, we have tried to emphasize, believing that this Convention Number should be less a history than an inspiration, and that what those who work for child welfare chiefly want to see is not so much the steps by which they have climbed as the "Vision Splendid" toward which they may advance.

So we have tried to gather from the States the things in which they have been different, the peaks of success that, rising from the high ground of constant activity and devoted service, will encourage others to take for their own the old Latin motto, "Quo non ascendam?"—How high shall I not climb?

A number of Reports have not been received by the magazine, but as far as possible, they will be published in later issues. "State News" is omitted because of its similarity to the State Reports.

I pity the creature who does not work, at whichever end of the social scale he may regard himself as being. The law of worthy work well done is the law of successful American life. I believe in play, too; play and play hard, but do not make the mistake of thinking that that is the main thing. The work is what counts and if a man does his work well and it is worth doing, then it matters but little in which line that work is done—the man is a good American citizen.

Theodore Roosevelt.

**THE BADGER STATE**

MRS. G. N. TREMPER,  
PRESIDENT

The wonderful growth of the work in WISCONSIN, the widening interest and the increase in membership, are matters of special satisfaction.

The state organization feels that perhaps the most important accomplishment has been the sending out of Bulletins, lists of plays and programs, speakers and organizers from the State Board.

The following questionnaire was sent out to superintendents in towns of 1,000 population or over—103 in all; 97 replied and only ten answered “no” to all the questions.

1. Have you Parent-Teacher Associations?
2. Have you a Parent-Teacher Council?
3. Who are members of the Council?
4. Do you belong to the State and National organization?
5. Have you ever sent delegates to the State Convention?
6. Is there any way in which the State organization can be of assistance in furnishing programs, speakers or literature?

In the space reserved for “Remarks,” the comments were most encouraging, and the information received has enabled us to find workers, to get in touch with educators and distant associations, and to provide just the kind of help and encouragement needed.

Nineteen cities have Parent-Teacher Councils including the presidents, the superintendent of schools, president of the school board and a delegate from each association. They meet monthly to discuss matters of general interest and work out their problems, and are able to undertake

general welfare work more systematically as a result. In one city the local presidents of a Council of 17 associations, with the state chairman of better films, compose a volunteer censorship board, which is called to view pictures and whose suggestions have been cheerfully and willingly followed by the managers.

We have 21 high-school associations in membership, working along all the lines of the best development. They have interested themselves in better buildings, wholesome recreation, cafeterias, uniform dress, and one association has made the students associate members of the Parent-Teacher Association, so that they may learn at first hand how to be of the greatest assistance.

The State Association is linked with every state agency working for welfare. The State Normal School at Milwaukee is this year offering a summer-school course on parent-teacher organization, which will be especially practical since so many of the teachers go into rural schools, and have known little how to reach the parents.

One rural Parent-Teacher Association, organized only two years ago, is a proof of what can be accomplished. It holds its meetings in one of the oldest school buildings in the county. Hot lunches, playground facilities, weighing and measuring of the children, and repairs to the building, are noteworthy results, and lectures and debates on all subjects from good roads to consolidation have inspired such community spirit that the school house is too small for the numbers in attendance.

**THE BLUE GRASS STATE**

MRS. GEORGE C. WELDON,  
PRESIDENT

KENTUCKY feels that she is at last justified in saying that she has her feet well in the path of accomplishment in Parent-Teacher Association work, having held her fourth Annual Convention in Louis-

ville in April. The spirit of the delegates fostered the thought that we in the Blue Grass are coming into possession of the true Congress spirit—sincere and unselfish effort on the part of all for the good of all.

We have in the past year established and put on a firm basis, a monthly Bulletin through which the state Board may speak to the local Presidents. Ten dollars were donated to start the work upon the first issue, since which time it has supported itself by advertisements. The printing is done at the Vocational School in Louisville, the mailing being done as a class exercise—all by the pupils.

We have financed our organization work, retaining Mrs. Harris as Field Worker. Thirteen new counties have been organized, some of them being in the almost inaccessible mountain districts, and we now have Associations in about 65 of the 120 counties in the state. The organizer's salary has been raised by private subscription and by a Tag Day which was such a success that we are going to establish it as an annual "Drive" of one day throughout the entire state, expecting to be able to raise enough to finance the field work for the entire year. Our Year Book was issued at no expense to the State Branch, advertising matter in the books used within the state paying for the whole issue and clearing for us about \$150.

In Louisville we have established a Scholarship Fund, which is used to keep in school the children who could not otherwise stay there. We raised \$850 for it through a Moving Picture show.

We have coöperated with the State Department of Education in an effort to put through some constructive educational laws,

and we feel that we have aroused a desire for better things educationally.

We can report constructive work among the negro associations throughout Kentucky. We have one colored County Council and a state Branch among the negroes. They have a splendid working body, fully functioning and eager to accomplish great things for their race. We give them every assistance possible, free of any expense, and our organizer and some members of the Board give their services freely, helping them to form their state and county bodies. Having separate schools, we have, of course, separate associations in all cases, they fixing their own dues. We are helping with their constitutions, and their plans for a colored Convention next year, and there is a splendid spirit of coöperation between the white and colored groups.

We are glad to report that the schools of Kentucky stand fourth in the United States in thrift. In Louisville our Council was largely responsible for the passage of the \$1,000,000 bond issue for the enlargement of many of our school buildings and the erection of a new Girls' High School.

We are trying to teach in Kentucky that one state cannot stand alone, that in unity there is strength, and that the National is possible only through the combined forces of all the states organized in Parent-Teacher Associations; when we join one, we join all.

### THE BLUE HEN

MRS. JOHN B. CLEAVER,  
PRESIDENT

DELAWARE, since the National Convention last year, has more than trebled the number of Parent-Teacher Associations in the state, and according to a survey made by the Department of Rural Education of Columbia University, has a greater proportionate number of rural-school districts organized than any other state in the Union.

We considered the greatest achievement of the year, the spirit of coöperation which has marked all Parent-Teacher Association

work. The State Board of Education, the State University, the Federation of Women's Clubs, the Service Citizens of Delaware and the State Teachers' Association, in response to our request, appointed representatives who became members of a central campaign committee and engaged actively during the year in plans to further Parent-Teacher Association or *community* work—for the Delaware program is very broad; it is working toward genuine community as-

sociations. Entire families from grandfather and grandmother to the fifteen-year-olds are enrolled and even tiny babies are in attendance at the evening meetings.

In speaking of the assistance rendered by other organizations, special mention should be made of the financial and secretarial aid furnished by the Service Citizens of Delaware. Their appropriation of \$6,000 to the Parent-Teacher Association this year is to be increased to \$12,000 for 1923. The greater part of this sum is to be used for publicity, and for traveling expenses which are supplied to volunteer organizers who could not otherwise undertake the work. Our ambition is nothing less than an association in every school district.

An outstanding feature of the Parent-Teacher Association year has been the adoption of a new Constitution, necessary on account of the growth of the organization in certain directions. Since November, 1921, 52 colored associations have been formed, making a total of 62 in the state. According to the old regulations, these, although they paid dues at the same rate as the white associations, had no representation at any state meeting, for Delaware is one of the states in which a joint group meeting of white and colored is an impossibility. The new constitution is based upon a plan which has proved practical in the State Department of Education—that is, a common treasury with common state officers, but separate group meetings and conventions. The colored folk elect from their own people a chairman for each county. These chairmen meet several times a year to confer with the state president, who acts as their representative at all state meetings. The plan has been endorsed by the colored and white associations at their annual conventions, and we believe that it is going to prove the best possible arrangement for all concerned.

The new school code adopted in 1917 being too radical in its changes for the rank and file of the people, there was a great deal of opposition, so the Parent-Teacher Association has made publicity in regard to school affairs one of the major features of the year's program. Every little organi-

zation has been asked to become a channel for the distribution of accurate information, and as a part of this plan, we have prepared and circulated two series of leaflets, six in number, which have brought to the people at least a speaking acquaintance with the things which have become standard in the modern school. Programs were suggested for every month, the important feature of which was the presentation of a topic describing some part of the modern school, as follows:

- I. The School Library
- II. Medical Inspection and Follow-Up Work in the School
- III. The Teaching of Health
- IV. The New Course of Study.
- V. Our Teachers—How to Get Good Ones and Keep Them
- VI. Recreation for the Neighborhood.

To accompany these, a second series of leaflets illustrating the facts was supplied each month in quantities for distribution at the meetings.

We are planning also to develop demonstration centers in each county. Some live, wide-awake associations will be selected and given any necessary assistance that may enable them to present the program material that we offer in the best possible way. Each month invited guests from other associations will attend the demonstration center, until each school district has had opportunity to participate in a model meeting.

A surprisingly large number of the new associations have responded to the suggestion of the State Association recommending the installation of libraries of at least thirty books with locked bookcase, in each rural-school district, with the purpose of adding the same number each year until a total of 300 volumes has been reached.

The Associations formed last year have been most eager to show this year a 100 per cent. enrollment—that is, at least one member from *every* home in the school district, so we are encouraged to feel that our rapid growth may become a permanent force, and that we may be a helpful factor in the National work.

**THE BUCKEYE STATE**

MRS. SAMUEL M. WILLIAMS,  
PRESIDENT

To the National Convention in assembly at Tacoma, Washington, Ohio sends greetings, and long may our progress be as rapid as that which we have enjoyed in Ohio since we last met in Washington, D. C. In April, 1921, we reported a membership of 8,621; today we report an enrollment of 23,719!

In June of 1921 we perfected a plan whereby Ohio enjoys the privilege of a Parent-Teacher column in the Better Schools Bulletin published at the State Department of Education every month, and for which we provide a mailing list of 10,000. We have the fullest coöperation from the state superintendent, Mr. Riegel, and from his assistant, Mr. Bliss, who is also the editor of the Bulletin. Our Department in the Ohio State Teachers Association also is of great value in our work, and each year we have a department program at the yearly State Teachers' Convention.

Our united efforts for the appointment of a field secretary resulted in the selection of Mrs. Dixon of Urbana, the one town in Ohio having a 100 per cent. Parent-Teacher Association record. Mrs.

Dixon's headquarters are in the State Department of Education, but all her time is spent in the field except half a day Saturday. Her work is the admiration of all the social workers in the state, and she has been granted three weeks' leave of absence in July to attend the lectures to be given at Columbia University by the national executive secretary. By means of a Parent-Teacher Association Carnival, Dayton was the first town to raise and pay into the field secretary fund \$1,000. A special tabloid edition of one of Dayton's daily papers devoted to the attractions of the Carnival was their unique method of publicity.

We joined hands with the State Department of Education and the American Legion in the celebration of Education Week. We sent out 7,000 letters, and talks were made in thirty different towns by the state officers and the field secretary.

Years ago in Pennsylvania we met a man who carried around with him this slogan "Watch Tacoma Grow." We accepted the challenge, and now we wish to paraphrase it: Friends and Co-workers, WATCH OHIO GROW!

**THE EMPIRE STATE**

MRS. MONTFORD C. HOLLEY,  
PRESIDENT

The past year's work of the NEW YORK State Branch was auspiciously begun by the presence of the National President at all the sessions of the state Convention. As a direct result we not only received the blessing of renewed enthusiasm, but also the answer for all time to the threadbare question, "What does the National do for us?" The members of the New York Branch now feel in their hearts that they are "the National."

As a result of a Membership Drive put on last year, we doubled our enrollment; the prize which was offered for the largest percentage of gain went to a school which raised its membership from 15 to 422!

We have been so fortunate as to have given us the use of an office, which brings us the opportunity to make the beginning of an executive headquarters, and we have the part-time service of a secretary. The installation of a mimeographing machine

enables us to send individual messages to our associations with far less expense than by printing. We have instituted a card system in the office which is enabling us to know our clubs and the circumstances of the groups, these cards giving the name of the organization, its president, meeting day, number of members, average attendance, dues, Child-Welfare contribution, number attending Spring Conference and Convention, and the general condition, with the reverse side left blank for remarks. Each card bears the name of the state officer to whom this information is to be sent by the District Chairman, and in this way the state officer responsible for the district has a complete file giving her definite data and a clear idea as to how she can best be of assistance along her department lines.

We were able to contribute \$400 to the Child-Welfare Day fund. As an aid to the raising of this money, we offered to our associations the Washington State Pageant, "Awakened Motherhood," the Missouri Pageant, "Progress," and a nutrition play given us by two of our workers. Our quarterly Bulletin, which has reached a circulation of 12,000, is sent free of charge to club presidents, in lots sufficiently large to supply each member of the state and national organization.

We have offered prizes to High and Elementary school pupils, and one was

given for the best essay on "What Do You Consider a Square Deal from the Home and the School?"

An intensive rural campaign is being instituted in one county, with the coöperation of the State Department of Education. We shall endeavor to organize an association in every school in that county, to prove the real worth of the work in rural communities, where organization has gone more slowly than in the cities. An organizer has been engaged, and with the assistance of the state officers near at hand, we hope to add two hundred associations to our number.

Recognition has been accorded us by the State Departments of Health and Education, which have published in their bulletins much of our material in the way of reports and suggestions.

At the meeting of the Women's Educational organizations called by the State University last February, at which were represented the League for Women Voters, the State Federation of Women's Clubs, the Home Bureau, the W. C. T. U., the Grange and the New York State Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, an organization was formed for the discussion of state problems, and the State Congress was honored by the election of its president as chairman of this co-operative association.

### **THE GARDEN STATE**

MRS. DRURY W. COOPER,  
PRESIDENT

The wonderful increase in members and in the number of associations is the greatest testimony to the need of our work in NEW JERSEY. It is a privilege to rear the structure on such a splendid foundation as was prepared in the early days of our state history, and to be part of an organization of women with such a vision. We have added 54 clubs since November, and have sixteen out of twenty-one counties organized, with three more ready to follow. We have issued a monthly Bulletin and a Year Book, have sent out 300 sample copies

of CHILD-WELFARE and have had many calls for our book lists and Loan Papers. Many rural communities are now using the Loan Papers instead of a speaker, and report much benefit from discussion of the subjects.

We are coöperating again with the State Summer Schools, and our Presidents' Councils, held in different parts of the state in the Spring, were a great success. Sixty-five associations are planning membership drives this Fall, in comparison with 18 last year. We are again offering a

prize to the county bringing in the greatest number of new associations, for the association bringing in the largest number of fathers as State members, for the association showing the largest percentage of attendance at the meetings, based on membership, and a prize for the largest increase in membership based on the enrollment in June, 1921.

There are several conspicuous activities general to all the counties—increased interest and attendance, growth of the community spirit, the giving of books to the schools, and installing equipment for hot lunches, but some remarkable pioneer work has been done which is of especial value. An outstanding feature of one county is her initiative. She takes first steps in big educational projects. Ten things she has done: purchased, equipped and operated traveling Dental Ambulances; led the movement for a County Library, the first in the state; opened supervised summer playgrounds; established girls' clubs for sewing, cooking and canning; given prizes to boys and girls who excelled in courtesy, consideration for others and high scholarship; served lunches in the schools; served cold milk to undernourished children at recess; established an annual scholarship in the Trenton Normal School for students of the county; endowed a free bed in the county hospital for a county child; won the prize for the greatest increase in membership in one year.

In another County one big project is

the study of nutrition. Classes for study are organized by the Nutrition Specialist of the State Extension Service of Rutgers University. Parent-Teacher Associations that wish to take up the work appoint two members of this nutrition class, which meets twice a month, and they take the work as given, back to their local communities.

The Department of Health has offered to supply a nurse for district work if the county will supply an automobile, and several associations have taken advantage of this proposition and secured the car.

One association has set a standard which may well be followed; it is the pride of the Bloomsbury Parent-Teacher Association that it started out, not as a local Parent-Teacher Association or a county unit, but as a part of the State and National Congress—working from those high ideals down into its own community, building on the right foundation and reaching into the homes. The year's program is mapped out around the Loan Papers sent out by the National Congress, clippings from papers bearing on Child-Welfare subjects are kept by the members and discussed at the meetings. "CHILD-WELFARE" is used freely, and already the association has eleven subscriptions for use in the homes.

Very active work has been carried on for Legislation, our Chairman reporting that we assisted in passing 37 measures during the 145th session of our Legislature.

## THE GOLDEN STATE

MRS. HARRY J. EWING,  
PRESIDENT

The CALIFORNIA Branch is completing twenty-one years of organized effort in the interest of Child-Welfare. It would seem that in this time—a generation of childhood—the pioneer work would be done ere this, but California covers a large area, over 150,000 square miles, with 58 counties, and notwithstanding the organization of 146 new associations this year, there is still much unorganized territory.

In the fall, the State President was

asked by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to address the annual convention of City and County School Superintendents of the state, and to the information and literature given out at that time and the intensive follow-up work of the state extension chairman is due the increased interest and substantial gain in membership.

That the Congress of Mothers is truly becoming a Parent-Teacher Association is

evidenced by the membership records, which show that 25 per cent. are fathers and teachers, as an average, though many schools have as many fathers as mothers enrolled, and every teacher.

As means of promoting interest, which sometimes can only be done by working for some concrete thing, many financial enterprises were undertaken and successfully carried through, \$140,000 having been raised by the various associations during the past year. This money has all reverted to the schools, providing more equipment, better teaching facilities and a wider opportunity to the children of the state to acquire the mental, moral and physical education necessary to their future development—in other words, "making education enjoyable, and not merely endurable." Due credit has been given the Parent-Teacher Associations in their respective communities for their active support in helping to pass bonds to the amount of over \$2,000,000.

Upon investigation, it was found that many children were suffering from malnutrition, and very effective measures were taken to overcome this defect. Many thousands of gallons of milk are distributed each day, and the children show a marked gain in efficiency. This has been financed almost entirely by the Parent-Teacher Association, and in addition, hundreds of dollars have been spent in "scholarship" funds, to keep in school the thousand or more children who would otherwise stay away for lack of proper clothing.

A very telling campaign against the distribution of obscene literature has been quietly conducted throughout the state; several dealers were arrested and fined for violations of the law, and many objectionable publications have been eliminated from the news-stands. No newspaper publicity was given to this procedure, and thus no morbid curiosity was aroused. The subject of Social Hygiene has been given a prominent place on the district and federation programs, in an effort to aid the home in bringing the facts of life before the children in a constructive and natural

way. The Reading Circles are proving more and more a boon to the busy mother, and are earnestly advocated by the Home Department, the discussions following the reading of each article being most beneficial.

Social activities and chaperonage of young people have had special attention on high-school programs, and "Father and Son" and "Mother and Daughter" affairs have been featured. Much assistance has been given to the Boy and Girl Scouts and Camp Fire Girls, and of the 750 kindergartens now in California, over half that number have been opened upon petition of the Parent-Teacher Associations. The first kindergarten law in any state was framed by our past-president, Mrs. Rowell, and the State Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Wood.

In answer to the question, "What was your most successful meeting this year?" two thirds of the replies gave "Fathers' Night," showing a realization of the responsibility of both parents, and the need for community unity on matters of education and environment.

State executive meetings have been held in the seven largest cities, thereby giving impetus to the local work by contact with the state work through the state officials. The January meeting, held in the Senate Chamber in the State Capitol, was attended by the Governor, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Commissioners of Education and all the members of the State Board of Education—a truly history-making gathering from the standpoint of coöperation.

Our policy has always been to give the members value received, and to that end we have expended \$1,725.00 in the printing of year books, receipt books, department literature and other supplies.

"You may grow to great riches and glory,  
You may toil for yourself through the day,  
You may write in your record and story  
The struggles you've met on the way;  
But vain is the fame that you boast of  
And wasted the years that you scan;  
Your strength you have not made the most of  
If you've rendered no service to man."

**THE HAWKEYE STATE**

MISS CAROLINE FORGRAVE,  
PRESIDENT

In Iowa during the past year efforts have been concentrated upon building a better foundation for the Congress work. State and local constitutions and by-laws to conform to those of the National organization were planned, and the new state constitution was adopted at the Biennial Convention last Fall.

The extension work has been carried on by a state chairman assisted by five district chairmen, who in turn have county chairmen under them. The Iowa State Teachers College has employed a former teacher of English in the college to give her entire time to giving addresses on Parent-Teacher Association work. She may be secured by any Association for one or more talks by providing for her local expenses, her salary and mileage being paid by the college.

Though no special drive has been made, the membership has grown from 8,725 in March of 1921 to 16,640 in April, 1922.

Though Mothers' Circles have not been emphasized, those in the state have done such good work that they will be featured in the coming year, and a drive is being planned for them for the fall.

More calls came for help in regard to programs and material than for anything else. The Program Bulletin issued a year ago, containing programs for the year and references for obtaining the material were in such demand that an additional supply was necessary. In the Bulletin this year we have outlined programs on the following subjects: Nutrition, Morals, Public Health, Citizenship, and Religious Education. Programs for April and May were taken from CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE. Strictly child-welfare topics were recommended, centering about our four objectives, the home, the school, the church and the state. At the Biennial Convention, a demonstration was given by the Health Fairy before six hundred children.

An annual Round Table in connection with the Iowa State Teachers Association,

and seven district meetings were held and all were well attended. The aim of the Round Tables is to create an interest in Parent-Teacher organization where none exists as yet, and to strengthen those already formed by exchange of methods of work, and by answering many questions from teachers and parents in regard to the problems of organization work. In some districts a luncheon preceded the Round Table, with an interesting program of toasts, and these were found so successful that it has been decided to hold them regularly.

The Child-Welfare Exhibit made by the Congress at the State Fair consisted of five units: an exhibit of the work done by the crippled children at the Iowa City hospital; a demonstration on the care of children by a trained nurse from the hospital; the Health Crusade by the Iowa Tuberculosis Association; an exhibit from the Des Moines Health Center; a collection of Child-Welfare charts, literature and helps in Parent-Teacher Association work.

Because in purpose we are different from other organizations, and because all over the state we are reaching the homes of all races and creeds, we are regarded as a medium through which other organizations interested in child welfare can give a helpful message, and one of the most interesting developments of the work is the coöperation thus given. The Iowa Tuberculosis Association has assisted in outlining our programs on health, has sent each local president a copy of their publication called "The Campaign," which has a page on Parent-Teacher Association work, has assisted in our State Fair work, and provided speakers for programs, etc. We coöperate also with the Nurses' Association, the W. C. T. U., the Conference of Social Workers, the State Board of Health, the League of Women Voters, and others, in legislative work and in district and county conferences.

## THE HOOSIER STATE

DR. EDNA HATFIELD EDMONDSON,  
PRESIDENT

Two years ago the Extension Division of INDIANA State University opened a Bureau of Parent-Teacher Associations. Its purpose was threefold: first, to coöperate with the Indiana Parent-Teacher Association; second, to afford a channel through which the State Association might function; and third, to offer more definitely the services of the University to local Parent-Teacher Associations. A member of the staff of the Extension Division was appointed executive secretary of the State Parent-Teacher Association by its State President, and this secretary has charge of the Bureau of Parent-Teacher Associations in the Extension Division.

Through the Bureau, the Division furnishes an advisory service to the State Association on matters of policy of the Association, which in turn advises the Division on Parent-Teacher work, and from the first, the most cordial relations have existed between the two. In the Bureau are kept the files of the Association, correspondence on Parent-Teacher work, records of all meetings and conferences, supplies of pamphlets and leaflets, and a file of the officers and of the local associations. The Executive Secretary attends Board meetings and annual conferences in order to keep in close touch with the work. The Bureau furnishes some clerical help for mailing the material provided by the State Association. One of the most definite services rendered by the University is the publication of pamphlets on Parent-Teacher activities. One of these is really a handbook, and the second, "Suggested Programs of Work and Study," is just off the press.

Another special service is the arrangement of three mimeograph sets of programs for monthly meetings. One of these sets is designed especially for new associations, one for those wishing to specialize on health topics, and one for those desir-

ing a list of general subjects in the parent-teacher field. Other helps furnished by the Bureau are speakers on child welfare, lantern slides and exhibits, motion pictures, package libraries on child welfare, home reading courses, and pamphlets on various kindred subjects. These services are open to all associations, whether affiliated with the state or not, except for state publications, which are sent out only by special permission of the State organization.

To sum up briefly the most important accomplishments of the year: the State Association has appointed a committee to coöperate with a committee from the State Teachers' Association to secure better trained teachers of home economics, to broaden the course to include the care of children, home nursing and home management; it has worked out a plan for increasing interest in simplified dress for school girls. This plan includes the style show, correct dress contests, and tactful talks to mothers, the point of view being entirely constructive. It has coöperated with Purdue University in a Dairy Products Campaign, to increase the use of milk by the children of the state; it has coöperated with the state school attendance officer by asking at her request, the appointment of a committee in every local Association, to assist the local officer, and by this system, has enabled many children to continue their school work who would otherwise have been compelled to lose many days' attendance or drop out altogether; it has assisted the State Department of Public Instruction in its classification of elementary schools, according to which a certain number of points will count on the score for a standard school for one having a Parent-Teacher Association affiliated with the state organization; it has already helped to secure legislation providing higher pay for teachers, and at the next session expects to secure a law to

increase their educational qualifications; it has taken an active interest in the motion-picture situation and has advocated a policy of endorsement of good films, sending out lists of approved pictures in

the monthly Bulletin,—all this in addition to the activities engaged in by the local associations, for home and school improvement.

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### THE KEYSTONE STATE

MRS. E. E. KIERNAN,  
PRESIDENT

We are glad to report that our work in PENNSYLVANIA is slowly and steadily growing; that our membership, which, six years ago, was 2,000, is now 14,500; and that county organization has begun, Chester, Somerset, Cambria, and Luzerne Counties now having county councils, and Blair, Erie, and Lebanon Counties expecting to organize this spring—or, at the latest, before our next convention, which will be held at West Chester on October 25, 26, and 27. District organization will succeed county councils. We have published a state program that has given much satisfaction to our local organizations. A month before Christmas, we sent to our presidents a children's book list prepared by our Chairman of Children's Literature to facilitate the selection of Christmas books by parents. Three circular letters on legislative matters have been sent to

every president. They tell about our state convention, give directions about coöperation with state welfare agencies, voice the requests of our various state chairmen, and also voice those of our National Chairmen, urging subscriptions to the magazine, etc. Close to 1,000 letters have been sent out by our Corresponding Secretary and myself since October; also many hundreds of pieces of literature. We have had inquiries from over fifty new districts. We have been successful in forming a coöperative committee with the State Department of Education, such as the New Jersey Congress had at one time, and through it, we secured, among other benefits, the right to have a speaker on Parent-Teacher work at every summer school. We have 74 associate members, 258 magazine subscribers, and up to date \$94.60 has been sent in for the National Birthday Fund.

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### THE LONE STAR STATE

MRS. S. M. N. MARRS,  
PRESIDENT

The growth of the TEXAS Branch during the past year has been unprecedented; the membership has increased 100 per cent. A Sixth District has been formed, including 45 counties, and more county organizations have been perfected.

Through the hundreds of clubs, representing more than 60,000 mothers, Texas has stressed in this year's work, Home, Health and Recreation. Especially have the mothers of the state been urged to see the possibility of solving many of the present-

day problems by well-organized Parent-Teacher Associations in high schools and by Mothers' Circles for the mothers of children of pre-school age.

There has been a phenomenal opportunity to accomplish these things through the coöperation with the State Department of Education and the State University. Through the State Department of Education we keep in closest touch with school conditions all over the state; through the board of health we are given two school

nurses, who are sent on request to communities wishing to establish whole-time Public Health nurses, or who are unable to finance a nursing service and yet wish to have their school children examined, health talks given, hot lunches established and a health program outlined; through the bureau of extension of the university we get the services of an experienced field worker to help organize new associations and visit and assist those already organized. It will also send motion-picture films, sets of slides and lectures, loan libraries and group study programs. Through the Public Health Association, 10,000 children are enrolled in Modern Health Crusades, all the work being done through the Parent-Teacher Associations, which the "Health Fairy" visited, and Dr. Valeria Parker, National Chairman of Racial Health, has given lectures and conferences of lasting benefit.

For the past three years we have cooperated with the State Department of Education in its state-wide Girls' Clothing Contest. We have furnished cash prizes to the high-school girls winning first place for feature garments and for special papers on clothing. Feature garments are judged as the girls wear them, and all accessories, hair, dress and posture, are included in the scoring. Marked improvement has been shown in the type of garments displayed, and high heeled and pointed toed shoes seem to have disappeared

from the school girls' wardrobe, to judge from the standard held by the contestants.

Another gratifying achievement was the participation in Education Week, held at the University, when three state organizations of women, the Federation of Clubs, the League of Women Voters and the State Congress, called a conference which was addressed by men and women of state and national fame.

The state now publishes a monthly bulletin which has proved most helpful in bringing the 895 clubs into close touch with the state work; it carries a column in the two educational journals of Texas, and has a weekly news letter in all the leading papers. The Publicity Chairman has prepared a "tack map," showing by different colored tacks the location of each club by districts, and again by different colors, the new clubs since the last state meeting, and the clubs organized but not affiliated.

A definite work is being done in training for citizenship. The Interscholastic League is carrying Americanization programs into more than 4,000 school districts and our Associations are coöperating. Many of our communities have Mothers' Clubs made up entirely of foreign mothers, chiefly among the Mexicans, and these organizations are doing more than any other agency toward Americanizing women. The teachers are largely responsible for these clubs.

### THE OLD COLONY

MRS. EDWARD C. MASON,  
PRESIDENT

MASSACHUSETTS has fared forth into some new paths, and has tried to put in a few more foundation stones in preparation for a substantial superstructure in the years to come. There are some encouragements—the increasing number of requests for organization, many of them from teachers, principals and superintendents; the strength and vigor of some of the new associations; the improvement in the quality of leadership; the large number of fathers interested, as evidenced by the fact

that nearly one fourth of the state associations have men presidents; the strong connections formed with other Child-Welfare organizations which are coöperating in the interest of the children. Among them are the Child-Labor Committee, which this year sponsored a bill to increase the school age from 14 to 16; the Safety Council which is making a splendid effort to reduce the number of accidents to children; the Tuberculosis League, which is most successful in forming health habits among

children; the Florence Crittenden League, which is doing preventive work for girls through recreation, and the state societies for Mental and Social Hygiene. These and many more are in touch with our work, are reaching our parents and teachers, and through them, the children which are our common responsibility.

Members of the state Departments of Health and of Agriculture are directors and chairmen of standing committees in our association and very recently the Department of Education has for the first time departed from its fixed policy of not allying itself with other organizations even though kindred in aim, and is now sending one of its deputy commissioners to our directors' meetings.

A growing bond exists between the State Teachers' Federation and the Parent-Teacher Association. The interest of the finest teachers in the state is more and more manifest, and we are frequently called in conference by them. Normal Training Schools are requesting that their pupils be informed about the work as it is organized in the state and nation, and the girls of the graduating class of the Kindergarten Training School are always given one talk on the practical operation of Parent-Teacher Associations.

Many of the local reports are refreshing and encouraging, but many show lack of intelligent leadership and high purpose and an easy sliding into the temptation of more charity work and the old-time raising of money and giving it away.

Our most difficult task is the stimulating of Associations to consult with educational leaders, to discover with them the vital needs of school and community, and to set about meeting those needs. In view of this difficulty, the following recommendations were made by the president at the October Convention:

That we all realize that through our Parent-Teacher work we can render a patriotic service which is just as great as any service rendered during the war—less spectacular but more far-reaching in its results.

That unless we as parents and teachers and

citizens face the economic problem of supplying the best training, care and environment for our children, we shall not as a nation keep up in the world race. That each Parent-Teacher association serve as a center from which to interest all the people in the school community in the problems of education.

That the standards of the meetings be kept at a high level, and be arranged by a committee of the best-trained people in the community.

That subjects vital to the best interests of the children be selected.

That meetings for parents be distinct from meetings for children in order that free discussion of the needs of the children may be possible.

That in order to develop the interest of members, meetings shall be conducted more and more frequently by members and less dependence be put upon outside speakers except for expert information.

That real study classes among parents be formed under the direction of competent leaders.

That parents and patrons of the school contribute personal service whereby activities related to the school work and supplementary to it may be carried on.

That teachers enlist the interest of parents in the educational aims and curriculum of the school, that the spirit of the school may reach the homes.

That home and school endeavor to unite in their point of view and aims, as they direct the life and education of the child.

The missionary spirit is being shown in the western part of the state, where two strong associations are arranging to help a rural mountain town populated largely by Polish farmers, by introducing a community center in the school house.

One High-School Association is working for a library for the new high-school building as a memorial to a former principal, who introduced Parent-Teacher work into the town where every school now has an organization.

The encouragement of effort toward the beautifying of school grounds has been made by the Department of Landscape Ex-

tension of the state Agricultural College, which offers the services of a trained landscape architect, including visit and recommendations, to Parent-Teacher Associations unable to afford professional services. Plans are provided at cost, and plants may be secured at a discount. It is hoped that many associations will avail themselves of this advantage.

The Parent-Teacher Association in Massachusetts is better known today than ever before because of its state headquarters in Boston and because of the thousands of letters which we are sending to citizens each year, telling them of our purpose and needs. It is ranked with other state-wide organizations, and the importance of its work is regarded as second to none.

### THE PRAIRIE STATE

MRS. M. P. MEARS,  
PRESIDENT

In the past year ILLINOIS has increased its membership by 127 organizations, and the most impressive growth in our work has been in the divisions of rural and high-school Parent-Teacher Associations. We attribute the general result largely to the activity of our regional directors. There have been nine District Conferences held in various parts of the state, and from them much inspiration has been taken back to local organizations. Not every district is locally directed as yet, but experience has taught us that it is better to make appointments for leadership in our extension and organization work only after we know that the chosen one has a true understanding of Parent-Teacher Association work and the ability necessary for carrying it forward.

The recent advent of a Fathers' Club brings forward this new line of activity in our state, and while neither a Fathers' Club nor a Mothers' Club can take the place of a Parent-Teacher Association, this type of organization has a definite place in the scheme of community betterment, and it is to be welcomed and commended.

This year is the first in which charters have been issued by our State Branch to its member Associations; this has been done for the information and protection of the school, the individual Association and the state Council. An increased number of local associations have qualified for certificates as Standard Parent-Teacher Associations during the second year of their existence, and a few have qualified as Superior Associations.

Helpful coöperation with other organizations has continued with about a dozen. Better provision for the feeble-minded and the prevention of blindness are two movements which ask our consideration and are entitled to it.

The most notable committee work done by any of our groups was that of Better Films, which was carried on in Chicago in a rather original way. This is one of the two cities in which all new films have their release. Our committee reviewed them as a part of the general public, asking no special showing by producer or exhibitor, and they endorsed only films suitable for the family group, feeling that motion pictures should not be attended by children unaccompanied by adults, and that the problem cannot be solved entirely in the larger communities by putting motion pictures or Visual Instruction into the schools. The motion picture is a problem of recreation. A very high standard was set for endorsement, and about fifty films have been approved since November 1.

In five years we hope to have a transformed Illinois, through the efforts of our "School Beautiful" Committee, which, with the Art Extension Committee of the Better Community Movement of the State University, has laid out a program of school beautification which should show positive results in that space of time. It includes preservation of the natural beauty of our State and the PRAIRIE spirit in landscaping the school grounds.

**THE SUNSET STATE**

MRS. JOHN LANGDON,  
PRESIDENT

In the past year, ARIZONA, especially in the mining districts, has passed through a period of depression which has reacted on the work of our associations; men were without work, some of our good members were forced to move to other states, and it has been difficult to interest the parents, but the copper business is now recovering, and we feel that our work will be more successful, as 19 new associations have become affiliated with the state organization.

The chairmen of several departments formed a committee and sent out programs for each meeting of the year. They were used by many of the associations and were considered a great help as a means of unifying the work throughout the state and forming a circle in which all the groups were doing the same thing at the same time. In addition to these programs, each association carried out some special line of endeavor in each community—hot lunches, libraries, pictures for the schoolroom, a school nurse, nutrition, or supplies of clothing.

In the coming year, the state will be or-

ganized into districts, following the county lines, and having a chairman in each district. We hope that much will be accomplished by this plan, and by our other great venture, the monthly Bulletin, issued first in April and already a decided success.

For the past two years, aside from the regular funds, each Association has contributed \$5.00 toward the state work and the "Delegates' Traveling Fund."

At the annual meeting of the Arizona State Teachers' Association, a resolution was passed indorsing the principles upon which the Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations is founded, and recommending that the individual teachers of the state coöperate actively with the work of these organizations.

At our State Conference, it was decided to ask all associations to have the flag in evidence at every meeting and occasionally to give the Flag Salute.

There are Parent-Teacher Associations in nine out of our fourteen counties, we have two City Councils, and thirteen departments of Congress work are organized in the state.

**THE WOLVERINE STATE**

MRS. E. W. KIEFER,  
PRESIDENT

The MICHIGAN Branch has repeated its record of last year and has again doubled its membership. The greatest increase proportionately has been in the organization of strictly rural associations, which only this year have seemed to take up the work to any great extent.

Michigan has adopted the County Chairman plan, and though it is yet in its infancy, finds it a great help in getting closer to the local associations. High-school associations have also increased in number and in interest. School men and teachers have become more interested in the work, as is evidenced by the following resolution unanimously adopted at the meeting of superintendents and school-board members held in March:

*"Resolved*, that we, the School Board Members and School Superintendents of Michigan, recognizing the necessity of the coöperation of the people of any community with the teachers and school authorities, encourage and foster Parent-Teacher Associations in our several communities."

The awakened interest of our educators is further manifested by the call for a two-day Parent-Teacher Conference at the State Normal College during the summer school sessions, to acquaint the teachers, who attend in large numbers, with the work of the National Congress and its real service to the school and the community.

In the past year, Michigan has issued monthly Bulletins, five of which have been printed without cost in five large cities

where printing is a part of the school training. Much encouragement has been given to the Safety movement by including it among our objectives, and devoting space both in the Bulletin and the Year Book to bringing this subject to the attention of the members. No object could be of greater importance, and our organization is in a position to make America safer by helping to create a public opinion that will not tolerate accidental death any more than it will tolerate murder, and by educating both the children in school and the members of the family at home in the principles and practice of accident prevention. The following recommendations have been made to all Associations in the state:

1. Make a careful survey of the home with a view to removing without delay all accident hazards and fire hazards. Perhaps several dangerous conditions will be revealed.

2. Provide adequate facilities and safe places for the children to play. They *must* play, if they are normal, and the streets are dangerous playgrounds. Individual parents or groups of neighbors can undertake this most important safety measure.

3. Start the children to school on time. Hurry often causes accidents.

4. Study the traffic rules of your city or community, obey them, and use your influence for their enforcement.

5. Encourage the introduction of safety education in your schools. In several states this has been made compulsory by law.

6. Help the school authorities to make the schools safe from fire risks or accident hazards. The Parent-Teacher Associations of Port Huron have been doing splendid work along this line.

7. Inquire if the state law which requires a monthly fire drill is enforced in the school which your child attends. Insist upon its enforcement.

8. Remember that unless parents themselves are careful never to "take a chance," the safety training of the school is without avail.

Michigan has now 312 Associations in 110 localities, and we feel that it has advanced greatly in extending the organization and in the development of the aims and purposes of the National Congress.

#### **THE NATIONAL OFFICE**

It is now just three years since the Executive Secretary assumed charge of the National Office in Washington. It may be interesting and valuable to compare conditions in 1920 and in 1922 and note whether or not real progress has been made.

In 1920 the business was all transacted in one large room of the headquarters building located at 1314 Mass. Ave., N. W. Now the offices occupy two large rooms in the National Education Association building at 1201 16th St., N. W. One room is used as the work room where typing, mimeographing, and packing and mailing of literature are carried on; and the other is used as a reception and conference room. Then all the work was done by the Executive Secretary alone except for such volunteer assistance as could be secured from ex-service men and national officers. Now there is an assistant to the Secretary con-

stantly employed, and during the busiest part of the year another helper is kept more than busy.

In 1920, 4,195 letters were received; and in 1922, 7,929. In 1920, 6,677 letters and cards were posted, and in 1922, 8,193 were sent out.

During the past year the distribution of the new leaflets printed late last year has continued, and other new leaflets have been prepared. Three programs have been arranged by the chairman of the Home Economics Department—"The Elusive Vitamin," "A Well-Filled Market Basket," and "Managing the Income." The Educational Program prepared by the chairman of the Department of Education has been printed, and the second edition is now being distributed. "Hints to Ambitious Parent-Teacher Associations," and "Five Plans to Increase Membership" have both

been printed twice this year, each issue of the edition being 10,000 copies. Besides the literature prepared by the National, material supplied by coöperating organizations and announcements of material which will help program committees are also being sent out. If each department chairman had two or three programs for the work of her department, they would be greatly appreciated. From requests now coming in, we shall need for the coming year a leaflet on "How to Organize a Local Association," "How to Organize a City or County Council," and "How to Form a Regional Organization and the Work It Should Do."

The list of Loan Papers is growing rapidly, and the papers are being used more widely now than ever before.

That these Loan Papers are being more and more appreciated is evidenced by the fact that in 1920, 1,248 were ordered from the National Office, and in 1922, 4,093 were mailed—nearly four times as many as in 1920. During the past year the revenue from this source has been \$688.16. In view of the cost for postage, mimeograph paper, ink, stencils, time of typist to cut stencils, mimeographing, collating, binding, indexing and filing, the price charged about covers the expense of putting them into circulation. Many letters of appreciation are received from those using them. The chairman of the Literature Department is to be congratulated upon the excellence of the new Loan Papers.

During the year the Character Research Institution presented the National Office with 10,000 copies of the "Moral Code" for distribution. These represented a gift of \$50. They seem to be much appreciated by the State workers.

During these last years, the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, which had established a name for itself as a welfare association, has come to be regarded also as an educational organization. That this is true is illustrated by several occurrences during the past year. In 1920, only a very few college or university professors evinced an in-

terest in the work of Parent-Teacher Associations. Now it is a common thing to receive requests for literature from college professors, normal-school principals, members of state departments of education, city and county school superintendents, as well as school principals and teachers.

During the 1921 summer session of Teachers College, Columbia University, New York City, three informational and inspirational lectures were given on Parent-Teacher Associations. This summer a three weeks' instruction course for which credits are allowed on requirements for degrees, is to be given, and an honorarium is to be paid for the work. Since this announcement was made, requests for similar courses have been received from other schools. One state has asked that a correspondence course be given on Parent-Teacher Associations and three other states have asked for an outline for similar college and normal-school courses.

During the recent Pan-American Conference for Women in Baltimore, the National Parent-Teacher Association was assigned a place on the program of the afternoon devoted to education. All of these things go to prove that the organization is coming to be recognized as among the real educational forces of the country.

It is interesting to note that from far-off Australia the University of Melbourne has written the National Office asking that organization material be sent to them. A stray copy of the Handbook had come into the possession of one of the professors, and his secretary was instructed to write for full information concerning the work of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. A local organization in Honolulu and two organizations in Alaska have recently affiliated with the National. Dr. Matilda Hunt, "The Lighthouse," 146 W. Lehigh Ave., Philadelphia, Penna., is asking for information to take back to the mothers of India. The Commissioner of Public Welfare in the Philippines is an associate member of the National and a subscriber to the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE. Many

Home and School Leagues in Canada are in frequent communication with the National Office. Recently one of our members in Arizona has been visiting in Nassau, the capital of the Bahama Islands, and has written for material for distribution there. Requests for organization material are being forwarded to the National Office by Congressmen, the United States Chamber of Commerce, and Press Associations.

During the past year the Sheppard-Towner bill, a measure indorsed by the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, became a law. While it was under debate in the House of Representatives last November, the National Congress of Mothers rendered a genuine service by showing that its passage was desired by thousands of the parents of the country.

During the period of the International Conference on the Limitation of Armament, the organization was represented on the executive board of the National Council for the Limitation of Armaments which wielded a strong influence in support of the program laid down by the Secretary of State.

During the past year, the Executive Secretary has visited Norfolk, Va., in the interest of the work of the State Branch; has attended the Convention of the North Carolina State Branch; and has served as delegate to the Pan-American Conference of Women and to the Convention of the National League of Women Voters, both held at Baltimore. These occasions have offered unusual opportunities for promoting the work of the National Parent-Teacher Association and for obtaining information and inspiration. The Pan-American Conference afforded opportunity to meet many of the representatives of Middle and South America and to bring favorably to their attention the work of the National organization. At the time of the Baltimore meetings the Secretary also attended a meeting of the Maryland Branch and spoke on the work of the National, and later addressed

the students of the Maryland State Normal School.

At the reception given Lord and Lady Astor at the headquarters of the National League of Women Voters in Washington on April 29, Lady Astor sent to the mothers of this organization an expression of her interest in their work and her confidence in their practical influence.

During the past year the State News for the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE has been received and edited in the national office. It would greatly lessen the work of preparing this material for the printer if the press and publicity chairman of each state would send material for the MAGAZINE in the form in which it should appear. It is often a very difficult task to select from the mass of material in a State Bulletin what should go into the MAGAZINE. Frequently the material is all so excellent and so interesting that it is difficult to decide which parts to use. It would also be of great practical help if each state president would kindly notify her state press and publicity chairman that material for the State News should be *in* the national office not later than the tenth of the month. For instance, material for the June issue should have been *in* the national office by the tenth of April.

The prompt filling of orders for material will be greatly facilitated if those who order it will address the office correctly. It is not sufficient to write, "National Office, 1201-16th St.", as there are *two* national offices at this address. The correct street and number should be given, as without this delivery of mail is often delayed 24 or 36 hours.

As we enter the new official year, let us do so with faith and courage, believing that the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations has been called to the privilege and obligation of genuine leadership in helping the parents and teachers of the country to join hands and hearts as they lead forward the new generation.

Most respectfully submitted,

FLORENCE V. WATKINS,  
Executive Secretary

